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INSIDE

● VE Day round-up

● Training senior commanders

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Vol 51/11

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FRONT COVER: Cpl Iain McDonald (left) and Cpl John Bevan, of London District Provo Coy, which helped police VE Day events in the capital, are shown in a wartime family photo by ex-WO2 Rocky Knight (72), a former Redcap who has been a Chelsea Pensioner for three years. Rocky reminisced about a career which included Second World War service with the Royal Warwickshire TA, the Grenadier Guards, the RMP in postwar Paris and the SIB in Malaya, Berlin and Kenya. (Picture: Mike Weston)



● **FIRST MEDAL:** Cpl Wayne Mills (left) of 1 DWR has received the first Conspicuous Gallantry Cross for covering his section under attack in Bosnia. Operational honours and awards. – Pages 12-13.

● **WHITE PAPER:** Britain's increasing role in peacekeeping and humanitarian operations all over the world could spell more

turbulence for soldiers. – Page 14.

● **ABACUS:** A new computer trainer is capable of putting senior commanders under 'real' pressure on the simulated battlefield. – Pages 15-17.

● **HARDFALL:** Commando sappers learn to survive in Norway's arctic weather conditions. – Pages 26-27.



The Queen talks to veterans inside the forecourt of Buckingham Palace before the VE Day concert

The nation remembers

BRITISH soldiers past and present joined forces in every part of the United Kingdom for a 50th anniversary celebration of VE Day which united the nation.

From Land's End to John o'Groat's, and from east coast to west, Regular and Territorial Army units, Old Comrades' Associations and Royal British Legion branches took part in hundreds of ceremonies commemorating the end of the war in



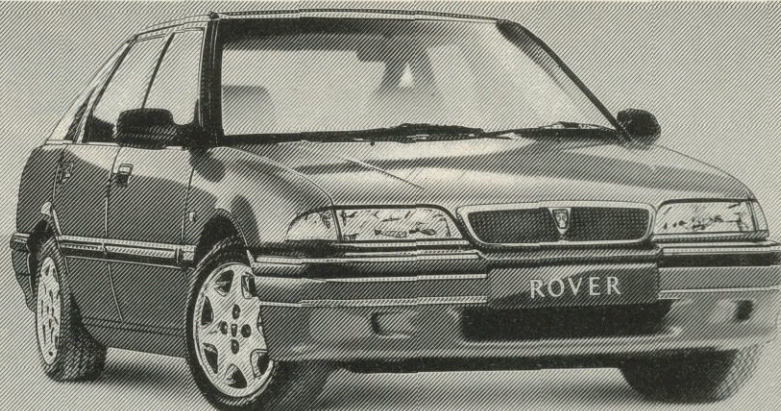
VE Day roundup – Pages 23-29

Europe and the sacrifices of those who fought and died. In London's Hyde Park, Servicemen and women took centre stage in the pageantry and provided support and security. Events involving soldiers based in Germany were held in Münster and Paderborn, while troops with the UN in former Yugoslavia and Angola held services. A Festival of Liberation in the Channel Islands was attended by GOC Land Command.

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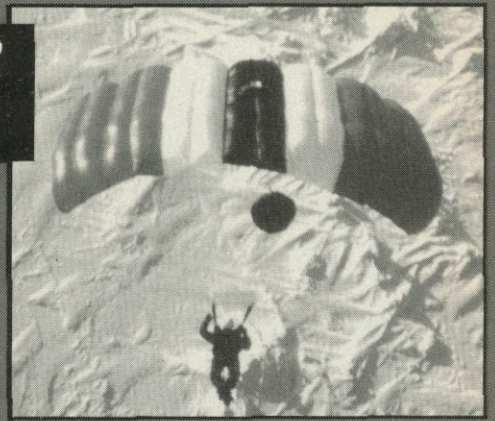


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POLAR PARAS



Red Devils Cpl Dave Mitchell (left) and Pte Finbar Molloy in front of the Union Flag which they planted on the North Pole after parachuting 12,000ft on to the pole. A Russian helicopter picked them up after their venture. Above: Pte Molloy, photographed by Cpl Mitchell as he floated towards the North Pole

Airborne set for huge US exercise

THE LARGEST movement of British troops outside Europe since the Gulf War will take place to the United States in April and May next year.

Several thousand soldiers, many from 5 Airborne Brigade, will join naval and air forces in the culmination of a five-year cycle of US exercises.

Aim of Exercise Purple Star is to practise a joint UK force in combined operations in an overseas non-NATO theatre. During the exercise 3 (UK) Division will rehearse the strategic deployment, command, control and maintenance of elements of the Joint Rapid Deployment Force.

Amphibious operations will be carried out by 3 Commando Brigade.

Units from the UK are expected to include HQ 3 (UK) Div and Sig Regt, with 5 AB Bde's 1 Para, 3 Para, 3 RGR, 7 Para RHA, 5 AB Bde Log Bn, 9 Para Sqn, 23 PFA, Divisional troops, and the RHQ and two squadrons from the Household Cavalry Regiment and 9 Regt AAC.

HQ 19 Mechanised Brigade will take part in a command post exercise. It will be the first "run out" for 3 (UK) Div and the first exercising of the new "purple" joint HQ.



Field Marshal The Duke of Kent, Colonel in Chief of the Devonshire and Dorset Regiment, chats to men of the 1st Battalion in Paderborn before their departure for a six-month tour in Bosnia

Lancers injured in tank attack

FOUR days after relieving the Household Cavalry Regiment, soldiers of the 9th/12th Royal Lancers escaped death when they were attacked by a Bosnian Serb T55 tank.

The school, which is the Lancers' base in Maglaj, suffered a direct hit when the tank fired a round, seriously injuring a Royal Engineer and wounding five Lancers.

The tank appeared over a ridge and fired at the school, a

previous target of sporadic shooting. The Lancers returned Rarden cannon fire and the tank withdrew. It was later established that the bunker from which the tank fired had been destroyed.

Soldiers of the 1st Battalion, The Devonshire and Dorset Regiment from Paderborn in Germany have replaced the 1st Battalion, The Royal Highland Fusiliers at Vitez, Gornji Vakuf, Zepce and Jelah.

Other units in the roulement are 21 Engineer Regiment, C Squadron, The Queen's Royal Lancers, elements of 9th/12th Royal Lancers, 110 Provost Company and 3 Armoured Field Ambulance.

The British contingent is part of the United Nations Protection Force based in Sector South West under command of Brig Andrew Pringle and HQ 20 Armoured Brigade.

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Homosexuality policies set out

GOVERNMENT and Opposition policies on homosexuality in the Armed Forces were aired in the Commons on May 4.

Defence Procurement Minister Roger Freeman said: "The MoD has long taken the view that homosexuality is not compatible with securing the aims of the Armed Forces, because it undermines the good order and discipline necessary for military effectiveness."

"This is not a moral judgement, but a practical assessment by those best placed to make it – the military – of the implications of homosexual orientation on military life."

"It is therefore our policy administratively to discharge personnel who admit to being homosexual or who engage in homosexual activity."

No parallel to the unique nature of Service life existed in civilian life, he said. Service personnel were often required to live and work together in very close proximity to one another.

He added that the Services had a responsibility for the welfare and morale of new recruits, 35 per cent of whom were under 18.

Speaking in a debate on the RAF, Mr Freeman said the shadow Defence Secretary, Dr David Clark,

had been quoted in the *Daily Telegraph* as saying that a Labour government would set up a working party to introduce new regulations to lift the ban.

Dr Clark replied that the Labour position, as put to the *Telegraph*, was: "Other countries have faced similar problems and have ultimately been able to arrive at a constructive solution, acceptable both to the Armed Forces and society as a whole."

"A Labour government will therefore establish a commission (if the problem still exists) to study the experiences of other nations." Such a commission, said Dr Clark, would include the chiefs of staff.

Tribute to the work of the British logistic battalion in Angola was paid in the Commons on May 3 by Foreign Office Minister Tony Baldry.

In answer to Mr Hugh Bayley, who had asked about the speed of the deployment, Mr Baldry said the purpose of the 600-strong UK logistic battalion was to help the speedy deployment of infantry. "Our men



A summary of Defence topics from Westminster

there, and the excellent job they are doing, are much appreciated and valued," he added.

A report issued in April by the US Department of Defense says there remains no clinical

evidence for a single or unique agent causing a Gulf War syndrome, said Mr Freeman.

Answering Mr Tam Dalyell, he said the report reviewed progress to date on clinical evaluation of about 15,000 American Servicemen subject to investigation. The figure compares with about 200 in the UK.

Recommendations which would lead to a reduction in the number of official residences for senior members of the Armed Forces have been accepted by the MoD.

In a written answer, Armed Forces Minister Nicholas Soames said a report by Sir Peter Cazalet concluded there was a legitimate requirement for the Armed Forces to entertain and endorsed the concept of entertainment in officers' own homes. "He has made a

number of recommendations about the way that entertainment is funded and the support that senior officers receive for this purpose.

"Additionally he has recommended that the concept of official Service residences should be retained, but that the criteria for entitlement to such properties should be reviewed, which should lead to a reduction in their number."

Mr Soames said the Defence Secretary and he endorsed the report's conclusions, "including that Service personnel have a need to entertain to an appropriate standard in support of their responsibilities."

Mr Andrew Mackinlay called for the MoD to convene a conference in conjunction with the War Widows Association and ex-Service organisations with a view to presenting a Bill to "remedy the anomalies relating to war widows and war pensions".

Participation in UN peacekeeping operations cost the UK £120 million in 1994-95, of which £50 million has been reimbursed. In the UN financial year 1994, Britain contributed £305 million to the UN system overall.

DWR, Yeomen given Freedoms



Soldiers of 1 and 3 DWR march through the streets of Barnsley after receiving the Freedom of the town

VETERANS of The Duke of Wellington's Regiment were warmly applauded by hundreds of people lining the streets of Barnsley when the town transferred its Freedom to the regiment.

A Deed of Grant was presented to Brig Dick Mundell, Colonel of the DWR, by Barnsley chief executive Mr John Edwards, and 300 troops from the 1st and 3rd Battalions were inspected by the mayor. Eight Colours, four from each battalion, were paraded.

The Freedom rights were transferred from the former York and Lancaster Regiment which disbanded in 1968. The Dukes, based in South and West Yorkshire, are now the representative regiment in the area.

Shrewsbury and Atcham conferred the Freedom of the borough on two squadrons of the Shropshire Yeoman-

ry – HQ Sqn (SY) of the Royal Mercian and Lancastrian Yeomanry, and 95 (SY) Sig Sqn, R Signals. Both have strong links with the community.

The Yeomanry marched through the town, led by the Inns of Court and City Yeomanry Band.

The Guidon was carried by WO2 Mick Meredith, escorted by SSgts Philip Weaver and Colin Booth.

● See also VE Day coverage



Cllr John Pritchard presents Maj Lindsay Wallace, Honorary Colonel, Shropshire Yeomanry, with the Shrewsbury Freedom scroll

Picture: WO Colin Staley

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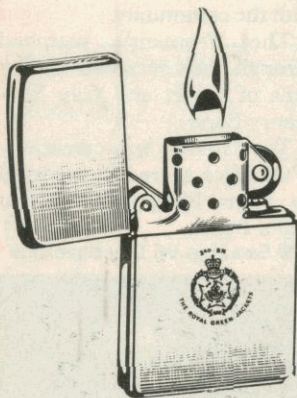
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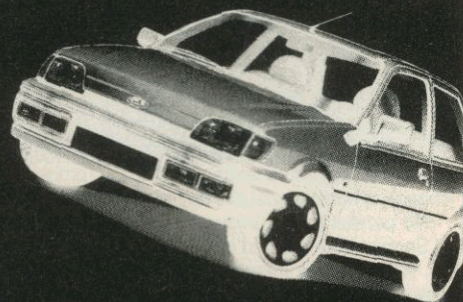
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New TA transport regiment on road

A demonstration of equipment by more than 200 men and women of Hull-based 150 (Yorkshire) Transport Regiment marked the formation of the new 158 Transport Regiment, Royal Logistic Corps (Territorial Army).

The display of helicopters, motor cycles, bands and a parade, held at Prince William of Gloucester Barracks, Grantham, was watched by 600 officers and soldiers.

To be called 158 (Royal Anglian) Regiment RLC (V), the new organisation will be based on the old RHQ of the 5th Battalion, The Royal Anglian Regiment in Peterborough, and will have transport squadrons located at Ipswich, Loughborough and Bedford.

Equipped with the DROPS supply system, the regiment will retain its historical connections with East Anglia and will become part of NATO's Allied Command Europe Rapid Reaction Corps (ARRC).

More fire power for Highland Gunners

THE HIGHLAND Gunners, Colchester-based 19 Regiment, Royal Artillery now have a fourth gun battery.

Formed last month, 2/51 (Kabul 1842) Battery can trace its history to the Indian Army of the 1750s. It is an amalgamation of two recently suspended batteries.

To mark the formation, the regiment, commanded by Lt Col Dick Applegate, was reviewed by Gen Sir Martin Farndale, the Master Gunner, St James's Park.

The regiment traditionally recruits in the Highlands.



THE FIRST major base to be given up by the British Army as a result of reduced tension in Northern Ireland is North Howard Street Mill in Belfast. It will be demolished following relocation of the Girdwood Roulement Battalion to Germany and of the Belfast battalion to Girdwood.

A former college of technology before it was taken over by the Army in 1969, it became a home

Goodbye to the Mill

from home to some 15,000 troops over the years. North Howard Street Mill stands near the peace line separating the Falls and Shankhill Road, and has been the scene of countless incidents between rival factions. Kilturk patrol base in Fermanagh was vacated in January.



Gen Sir Martin Farndale, Master Gunner, St James's Park, inspects the new 2/51 (Kabul 1842) Battery at Kirkee Barracks, Colchester, with 2iC Maj Peter Worsley (left) and battery commander Maj Tom Ellen

IN BRIEF

SOLDIERS from York-based 2 Signal Regiment will guard St James's Palace, London from June to August to mark the 75th anniversary of the corps.

● Maj Gen Walter Courage attended a service at the Jewish cemetery in Haigh Barracks, Hönne, to commemorate those who died following the liberation of Bergen-Belsen camp in 1945.

● Gryphon's Eye, an exercise involving 2,000 soldiers, 400 vehicles and 45 helicopters, was held by 24 Airmobile Brigade on the Stanford Training Area, Norfolk.

● Men from 69 Gurkha Field Squadron, 36 Engr Regt, have deployed from Maidstone to Canada for three months to improve Camp Wainwright. A detachment will be based in Jasper National Park to run adventurous training.

Training link with Russia

BRITAIN has discussed bilateral ties with the Russian military, including joint exercises and the training of middle-ranking Army officers, Fd Marshal Sir Peter Inge said in an interview. — *Times*

□ NATO's Rapid Reaction Corps (ARRC) would take the central role, with a mandate to go in hard, if United Nations troops need to be brought out of former Yugoslavia. — *Guardian*

□ Survivors of PoW camps in the Far East have stepped up their campaign to persuade Japan to apologise for their brutal treatment. — *Sunday Express*



□ Members of the Parachute Regiment Association's Wakefield branch stood in silence outside the city's prison in a VE Day tribute

to Pte Lee Clegg, serving a life sentence for the murder of a young woman passenger shot when a stolen car burst through an Army checkpoint in West Belfast in 1990. — *Daily Telegraph*

□ People living within 550 yards of a former Army depot at Bramley in Hampshire have been asked to fill in questionnaires in case they have to be evacuated during operations to search for buried First World War shells and bombs containing phosgene and mustard gas. The search will be carried out by soldiers from 33 Engineer Regiment. — *Times*

Watchful Wardens

While the much larger four-nation air force clears the skies north of the 36th parallel each day, as part of the coalition Operation Warden – aimed at keeping Saddam Hussein's forces out of northern Iraq – a 21-strong ground element is carrying out an equally important role.

Senior UK military representative at the Military Co-ordination Centre at Zakho, northern Iraq, is Lt Col **James Thompson**, R Irish (centre), who leads a five-man British team which monitors humanitarian aid provision and visits mountain villages to assess future needs and current progress. With him are (back row) Sgt **Nick Wood**, RAF, Sgt **Dave Hutton** RLC, CSgt **Joe McPaul** IG, based at Coalition Force HQ, southern Turkey, and Sgt **Gary Palfreyman**, RAF Regiment; and (front row) Sqn Ldr **Jerry Riley**, RAF Regiment, and Capt **Alex Bellingham**, Int Corps, also a guest from Coalition HQ.



BRIG - AID - IER!



After presenting certificates to successful candidates on a St John Ambulance Association first aid at work course, Brig **Paul Evans**, Commander RLC Training Centre and Deepcut Garrison, sprang a surprise on course organiser **Len Penrose**.

An instructor with the Logistic Employment Training School, Len – who retired last month after 34 years at Blackdown as a WO2 (Master Tailor) and civilian tailoring instructor – was presented with certificates to mark his 15 years as an MoD first aider and for "the encouragement of first aid training" during that time.

Fit for the job



Maj Gen **Mike Scott**, outgoing GOC Scotland, is put through his paces at the new HQ Scotland fitness centre, which he opened. Gen Scott, with Maj **Ian Horn**, SO2 G3 (Physical and Adventurous Training), is now Military Secretary at Stanmore.

(Long) Service with a smile...

"There was so much attention on us, it was just like getting married again," said Sgt **Eric Ormiston**, 83 Postal and Courier Squadron, RLC, after receiving a Long Service and Good Conduct Medal at the same time as his wife, **Marcia**, also a sergeant. The couple, who have been in the Army for 16 and 15 years respectively and met when they were both privates, are now based at Dhekelia, Cyprus, where Marcia is master chef at the Garrison Officers' Mess.



High ambitions...

All being well, these three intrepid Paras should currently be in the middle of an international climbing expedition, arranged by the Indian Army, on the 27,000ft Nandi Devi mountain in the Himalayas. Planning time was a mere six weeks for (left to right) Capt **Al Sweet** (Support Coy, 2 Para), team leader Capt **Charlie Harris** (A Coy, 1 Para) and Pte **Cliff Hands** (also from A Coy).

PEOPLE PEOPLE



Command Secretary at Wilton **Derek Dreyer** (centre), was dined out in style at Edinburgh Castle at the end of his three-year term of office. Derek, seen with fellow civilian District Secretaries **Mike Gambazzi** (left) from Southern District and **Arthur Young**, from Scotland, is moving on to a job in Ministry of Defence Headquarters in London.

SCOTTISH SEND-OFF

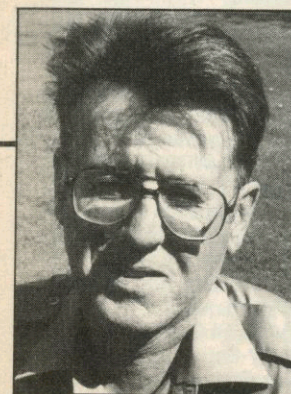


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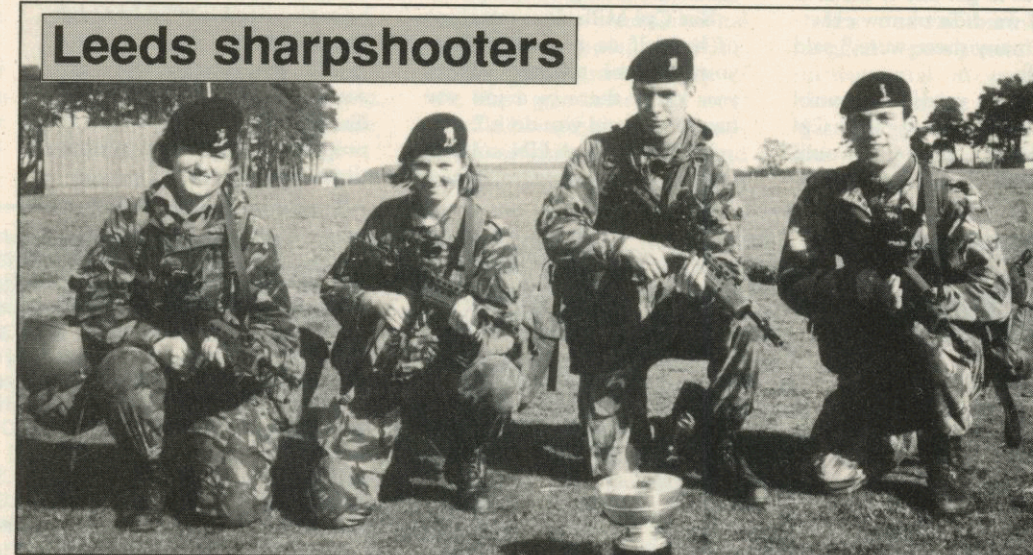
Learning how young officers cope with a wide variety of situations were these sixth formers from schools throughout Northern Ireland. Lt **Colin Gray**, 3rd Battalion, The Royal Irish Regiment, was on hand to answer questions from (left to right) **Carrie Beeg**, **Stephen Baillie**, **Gillian Ludlow** and **David Platt**, who were visiting the battalion at Ballykinler as part of a management shadow scheme, run by the Northern Ireland Institute of Directors, in which the Army is participating for the first time.

GORDON'S GONG

During his 32 years in the Army, SSgt **Gordon Hobbs**, administrative Staff Quarter Master Sergeant to 15 (North East) Brigade, has served in Germany, Canada and Cyprus and has been on six operational tours. He is now the proud possessor of an Accumulated Service Medal, presented to him at Imphal Barracks, York, by the brigade's commander, Brig **Austin Thorp**.



Leeds sharpshooters



Among the shoal of prizewinners from Leeds University Officers' Training Corps in the annual North East District UOTC shooting competition at Strensall were these members of the falling plate team, WO Cds **Ellie Morgan** and **Tanya Pitman**, 2nd Lt **James Wyatt** and Capt **Damian Chubb**. The overall team, trained and coached by CSM **Mick Kennedy**, Sgt **Stewart Hayward** and Cpl **John Astley**, scooped the best team, best male shot, best female shot and best male team awards.

NCO who covered withdrawal awarded the first CGC

A CORPORAL who risked being cut off while covering the withdrawal of his patrol under Serb fire in Gorazde has won the first Conspicuous Gallantry Cross.

The new award, second only to the Victoria Cross, is made to Cpl Wayne Mills, 1st Battalion, The Duke of Wellington's Regiment, who was leading a foot patrol of eight in mountainous, wooded country near Gorazde on April 29, 1994, shortly after NATO air attacks had halted a Bosnian Serb offensive against the safe area.

When the patrol came under heavy fire it took cover and returned accurate fire in which two Serbs were killed, one by Cpl Mills.

This aggressive response surprised the Serbs and momentarily checked their advance, allowing Cpl Mills to start withdrawing his patrol.

But large numbers of Serbs continued the attack and he had to carry out a fighting withdrawal of "fire and manoeuvre", one group covering as the other moved away.

"I decided that the safest thing was to get out of the area because we didn't know exactly how many there were," said Cpl Mills.

After 600 yards the patrol reached a clearing and Cpl Mills realised the Serbs would catch them in open ground.

"Somebody had to buy them time and I decided to stay behind and give the lads more time to get out," he said.

He sent them across the clearing and set up a snap "one-man ambush".

As the Serbs came firing through the trees, Cpl Mills killed the leader with a burst of automatic fire. The attack broke up and the remainder fled, allowing Cpl Mills to rejoin his section and return to the 1 DWR base.

The citation states that Cpl Mills risked his own life to delay the aggressors with accurate covering fire while his men escaped.

"His deliberate and accurate fire delayed the Serbs but the speed of their advance meant that he was in real danger of being cut off from his colleagues."

Cpl Mills's company commander, Maj Nick Borwell, who was himself mentioned in despatches, said it was an outstanding act of heroism.

"There was no question that he put his own life at risk. Had it not been for his action there would have been fatalities."

But Cpl Mills does not think of himself as a hero. "When you join the military service you know there is a job you have to do and you do it."

He added that UN soldiers were not in Bosnia to fight a

Rwanda leaders receive awards

COMMANDERS of the British United Nations Forces in Rwanda have been made OBE or MBE or awarded Queen's Commendations.

Lt Col Mike Wharmby RLC led the contingent, which had to cope with sickening conditions, while 23 Parachute Field Ambulance RAMC, commanded by Lt Col Alan Hawley, had to do what they could for refugees suffering from horrendous wounds.

Both were appointed OBE. The worst task probably fell to the Environmental Health technicians, whose WO1 Roy Bedson is made MBE. They had to cope with almost overwhelm-



Lt Col Alan Hawley OBE

ing death, disease and contamination, and both they and civilian organisations were inspired by WO1 Bedson's professional approach.

The commander of 9 Parachute Squadron, RE, Maj Iain James, is appointed MBE for restoring utilities under the most trying of circumstances.

Cpl Barrie Carruthers REME is also made MBE for managing the vehicle recovery service. This was the only help to which non-governmental organisations could turn, and although often in great danger, he was an example to all.

war but to ensure supplies got through to the civilian victims of the war.

Sometimes the Dukes would meet groups of armed Serbs happy to drink coffee and chat about football.

"But you never know when someone is going to take a dislike to you, so you have to be prepared and respond to situations as they occur," he said.

The Conspicuous Gallantry Cross was introduced in 1993 under the reform of gallantry awards to recognise exceptional courage regardless of rank.

It replaced the Conspicuous Gallantry Medal, the Distinguished Conduct Medal and the Distinguished Service Order when awarded for gallantry.

The DSO, which is now

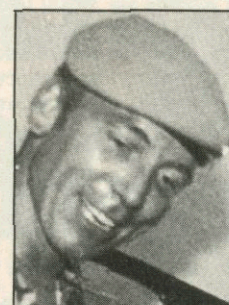
awarded for combined leadership and organisational abilities under active service conditions, was also presented to Cpl Mills's commanding officer, Lt Col David Santa-Olalla, for repeatedly using his authority to "calm ugly and life-threatening situations." He already holds the Military Cross.

The battalion, which deployed two companies and battalion headquarters to Gorazde six weeks after arriving in Bosnia, was awarded a clutch of five mentions in despatches, one Queen's Commendation for Bravery and one Queen's Commendation for Valuable Service as well as the CGC and DSO.

The DSO is also awarded to Lt Gen Sir Michael Rose for his "inspirational leadership and personal courage" while commanding UN troops in Bosnia in 1994.

Gen Rose was the main force behind the plan which led to the end of fighting between Muslim and Serb factions while restoring the situation in besieged Sarajevo.

On one occasion, he walked across no man's land during the vicious fighting at Stari Vitez and personally persuaded the Croat and Muslim com-



Cpl Stephen Lister MBE

batants to lay down their weapons.

The Military Cross has been awarded to CSgt Gary Cryer of The Parachute Regiment and to Cpl Andrew Rainey of The Royal Anglian Regiment, whose position came under heavy machine gun and

artillery fire from Bosnian government troops.

Cpl Rainey's section was dismounted and in his efforts to protect them from fire he moved his Warrior between the gun positions and his men.

Brig Roy Ratazzi, Chief of Staff to the Commander of the United Nations Protection Force, is appointed CBE. Highly regarded by commanders and staff at all levels, he was the Force Commander's principal operational and logistics adviser.

Brig Andrew Ridgway is also appointed CBE for the way in which he dealt with the war in central Bosnia as commander of the British Force.

While RSM of 36 Engineer Regiment, Capt Ian Sinclair and his team braved sporadic shell and sniper fire to co-ordinate the destruction of the old bridge in Mostar. He is made MBE.

As chaplain to the British



Cpl Wayne Mills CGC and (inset) the new medal

Forces the Rev Duncan Pollock was always on hand with compassionate words and deep understanding for a widespread and multinational parish. He is appointed MBE.

The contribution of one of the least glamorous but most morale-boosting units for soldiers serving in Zepce and Maglaj, the Bath and Laundry

Unit, is also recognised. Its commander, Cpl Stephen Lister, has been appointed MBE.

His "native cunning and dogged persistence" were instrumental in providing a first class service to troops. Cpl Lister is at present carrying out the same vital function for British soldiers in Angola.

For distinguished service in Northern Ireland

CBE

Brig A M D Palmer late RGJ; Col D J Ross OBE, late RWF.

OBE

Lt Col R M Brunt MBE, R Anglian; Lt Col PJ Bryant, AGC(ALS); Lt Col A J Faith, RA; Col A R Freer, late Para; Lt Col D Husband, AAC; Lt Col M L Jackson, WFR; Lt Col C L Le Gallais, R Signals; Col A C Mantell, late RE; Lt Col T C R B Purdon MBE, WG.

MBE

WO1 A Brown MM BEM, Para; Lt Col J J C Bucknall Coldm Gds; Cpl L Ennis, AGC(SPS); Maj D R Evans, WG; Capt B E V Ferguson, R Irish; CSgt J A Gedney BEM, Para; Maj K T Haugh, RGBW; Capt M W Jenks, RE; Maj P D Jones, R Anglian; Maj A C P Kennett, Para; CSgt A H Kerr, R Irish; Lt A E McClelland, SAS; Maj P H K Miller, REME; WO1 A Murphy, R Irish; Lt Col D J Owen, RLC; Maj A W Phillips, RLC; Maj P D Raby, RLC; Maj M R R Ramirez, Para; Lt Col P C Roberts, AAC; WO2 N T

Stirk, R Signals; Maj J R W Thomas, R Irish; WO2 S G Whitfield QGM, Kings Own Border; Lt Col J D Wootton, RE.

DSO

Lt Col J Cooper MBE, KOSB

GM

WO1 N B Thomsen, RLC

QGM

WO2 K Connelly, WG; CSgt A W Hartland BEM, Para; Sgt K J Smith, Para.

MID

SSgt M Abbott, RA; Sgt P F Baker, Staffords; Capt S J R Browne, R Anglian; Lt Col T J Camp MM, RA; Sgt S Dolan, WFR; Maj A W Field, WFR; Maj A T D Jackson, Para; LBdr D T

Johnson, RA; Pte J C King, KOSB; WO2 A D Kittsen, RA; Sgt E J McAuley, KOSB; Pte C T Merrin, WFR; Capt J V Morgan, AAC; Cpl S Morris, RE; Sgt P R Myers, Para; LCpl A S Toman, KOSB.

QCB

WO2 N J Barnett, R Signals; SSgt S Clark, R Signals; WO1 D J Fordyce, RLC; WO2 C G Hole, PWRR; Capt G A J Macintosh, WG; Lt Col H D McCormack GM, RLC; WO2 K Moore BEM, Kings Own Border; Cpl G E C O'Dowd, Int Corps; Sgt S J Prince, QDG; SSgt A R

Smith, RLC; Pte B T Smith, WFR; Capt S J Taylor, PWRR.

QCVS

Maj R Allen (posthumous) RGBW; Maj L Ashbridge MBE, Para; Col C J Biles OBE (posthumous) late D and D; WO2 R J Campbell, R Irish; WO2 J J Carmichael, R Irish; Lt Col M J Cooper, PWRR; WO2 H Docherty, KOSB; Maj C J Dockerty (posthumous) PWRR; Maj D P Frankland MBE, RLC; Lt Col R L Gregory-Smith (posthumous) Int Corps; Rev R J Hall, RACHD; Maj G E Hayter, AGC (SPS); Lt Col S P Hodder, RE; Maj P D

Hogg, KOSB; Maj A R Hornby MBE (posthumous) QLR; WO1 B W Irvine, KOSB; Sgt M A Jenkins, RE; Cpl M M Kennedy, Para; Maj A D Mackay MBE, KOSB; Sgt W P McMurray, AGC (PRO); Maj R Pugh MBE (posthumous) Int Corps; Maj P J W Roderick MBE, WFR; Rev P M Rutherford, RACHD; Maj N Sharples, PWRR; WO2 N J Southam, Int Corps; Maj G P Sparks (posthumous) RA; Maj M O Usman, RLC; Lt Col G V A Williams MBE, QGM (posthumous) Int Corps; Cpl T T Withers (posthumous) R Irish.

For distinguished service in the former Republic of Yugoslavia

CBE

Brig R E Ratazzi, late RCT; Brig A P Ridgway, late RTR.

OBE

Lt Col D R Burns MBE, RE; Col J A Daniell, late RGJ.

MBE

Cpl S Lister, RLC; Rev D J M Pollock QGM, RACHD; Capt I Sinclair, RE; Sgt N E Tully, RE; Maj A J C Wild, R Anglian.

DSO

Lt Gen Sir H M Rose KCB, CBE, QGM, late Coldm

Gds; Lt Col D M Santa-Olalla MC, DWR.

CGC

Cpl W K Mills, DWR.

MC

CSgt G S Cryer, Para; Cpl A J Rainey, R Anglian.

MID

Maj N G Borwell, DWR; Maj D S Bruce, DWR; Sgt S Caine, DWR; LCpl C Chambers, DWR; Cpl N R Farrell, RAMC; Col J C McCall OBE, late R Anglian; LCpl L P Seviour, DWR.

QCB

Cpl M D Hughes, DWR; Maj R J Kemp MBE, R



Gen Rose DSO

Anglian; SSgt B T Kerr, RAMC; Lt J N Mitchell, DWR; LCpl S P Ollerton, R Anglian; Cpl K H Prescott, RE; CSgt D A Robinson, R Anglian; LCpl A J Walker, RLC.

QCVS

Sgt P J Brennan, DWR; Capt S D Etherington, R Anglian; Maj R L Ferguson, RLC; Capt N B Fraser, RAMC; Lt S T Gillespie, R Signals; Capt P S Leslie, R Anglian; Cpl D McBlain, RE; Lt Col S L Porter, R Anglian; Lt Col C

M Steirn, RLC; Spr A A Taylor, RE.

For distinguished service in Rwanda

OBE

Lt Col A Hawley, RAMC; Lt Col M J Wharmby, RLC.

MBE

WO1 R C Bedson, RAMC; Cpl B W Carruthers, REME; Maj I S James, RE.

ARRC

Capt S Archer, QARANC

QCB

WO1 R Brown, RE

QCVS

Maj M H England, RAMC; Lt P V Fountaine, RE; Maj A M Nicol, RAMC; Maj M H F Russel, RLC.

Northwood to be focus of operations

WITH increased emphasis on tri-Service operations, a new permanent Joint Headquarters is to be established at Northwood in Middlesex by April 1, 1996.

It will combine intelligence, planning, operational and logistics staffs and contain elements of a quick-reaction in-theatre JHQ to complement the rapid deployment of front-line forces.

The United Kingdom can expect increasing calls to respond to a range of crises, and its ability to react quickly to stabilise volatile

situations before they deteriorate would be tested. The new JHQ will work to anticipate crises and monitor areas of interest to the UK.

"Its establishment will set in place a proper, clear and unambiguous connection between policy and the strategic direction and conduct of operations," said Defence Secretary Malcolm Rifkind.

Operational command of joint operations – such as those currently running in northern and southern Iraq, former Yugoslavia and Angola – would be progres-

sively assumed by the new permanent JHQ from April 1, 1996 following an intensive shakedown period to validate its capabilities.

Detailed consideration is being given to how National Contingency Forces will work with the Joint Rapid Deployment Force (JRDF) now being formed.

The development of rapidly deployable forces such as airborne and commando brigades to allow them to intervene even more quickly and effectively is also under consideration. Once in the-

atre, the JRDF could rely heavily on support provided by other elements of the National Contingency Forces. In principle, any element could be drawn on to contribute to a JRDF operation.

The National Contingency Forces and JRDF would provide a "golf bag" of forces held at graduated levels of readiness. Any force would be assembled to meet the specific needs of a mission. They would also provide the capability to conduct different but concurrent operations.

Peace role heralds fresh turbulence

POTENTIAL for fresh turbulence is possible as British soldiers become involved in peacekeeping operations overseas.

In his introduction to the Statement on the Defence Estimates, Defence Secretary Malcolm Rifkind warned that the international stage was fluid.

Many soldiers will continue to experience turbulence as Front Line First is implemented, although the big decisions have been taken and a period of stability can be injected.

But the White Paper anticipates growing demands on the United Kingdom to support conflict prevention and conflict resolution, as well as peacekeeping and humanitarian aid missions, whether mounted by the United Nations or on an *ad hoc* basis. These would make heavy demands on resources.

The British Army had made a substantial contribution to developing peacekeeping doctrine in its manual *Wider Peacekeeping*, which took two years of research and analysis to produce.

Seven mission types are identified for British Forces:

- Military aid to the civil power in the UK;
- Challenges to the internal or external security of a dependent territory;
- General war, such as a large scale attack against NATO;

- Limited regional conflict involving a NATO ally who calls for assistance;

- British contribution to NATO and the Western European Union missions;

- Serious conflict, other than an attack on NATO, which could adversely affect European security or pose a serious threat to British interests elsewhere or to international security;

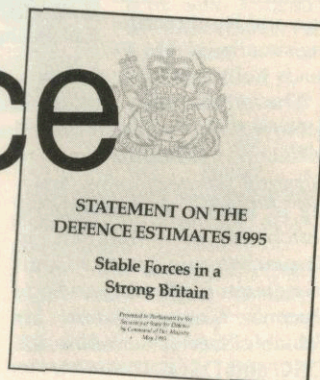
- Other military assistance and limited operations, characteristically of lower intensity and longer duration, to support international order and humanitarian principles, most likely under UN auspices.

The White Paper says National Contingency Forces would be available for all seven mission types, providing an immediate response to regional tensions and a foundation on which to build to counter any major external threat.

There would also be a pool from which forces would be drawn for operations in support of international security and stability.

Training would continue on the basis that Contingency Forces should be capable of operations in all types of terrain and temperature: desert, cold weather and jungle.

Mr Rifkind confirmed that



further reductions in the Armed Forces had been ruled out by the Government, even if more troops were withdrawn from Northern Ireland.

"There will be no cuts to our front line, even if our commitments reduce," he said.

"If we are able to reduce the Armed Forces commitment to operations in support of the Royal Ulster Constabulary, it will not be matched by cuts in fighting units.

"Instead, it will mean more time for families, training and more time to apply expertise and professional skills on the global stage."

The White Paper acknowledges that there is no direct strategic military threat of attack against the United Kingdom. There is a very low risk of an attack on British dependent territories such as the Falklands. There is also more hope now of an end to hostilities in Northern Ireland than for the past 25 years.

Mr Rifkind said the Government had a clear view of Britain's place in the world. It would continue to be a major participant in European and world affairs.

● Statement on the Defence Estimates 1995, HMSO, £12.80.

Army strength to be 117,000 by next year

DEFENCE spending in 1995-96 will total £21,720 million, three per cent of the Gross Domestic Product. By 1997-98 the cost of defence will have fallen in real terms by 20 per cent since the end of the Cold War.

□ By April 1 next year it is planned the Armed Forces will have been reduced to 231,500. Strength of the Army will be 117,000.

□ Major equipment projects announced last year for the Army include 259 Challenger 2 tanks, and there are plans to modernise the Armoured Vehicle Royal Engineers and Armoured Vehicle Launched Bridges, currently mounted on Chieftain hulls, to permit them to be used in Challenger 2 and Warrior battle groups.

□ Additional 155mm ammunition will be procured for War Maintenance Reserve and more satellite communications facilities will be purchased.

□ Plans include the provision of more communications support through buying additional manpack SATCOMs for airborne and commando brigades.

Exercise battles: you can count on ABACUS

TRAINING for higher level commanders – including generals – took a quantum leap at Bulford when Advanced Battlefield Computer Simulation equipment (ABACUS) was used for the first time on a divisional exercise.

The equipment allows higher formations to practise staff procedures realistically by simulating any type of tactical movement. If any planning mistakes are made, it is merciless in exposing them.

“Nobody else in the world has a similar system. It is light years ahead of anything else,” said Col John Field, Commander Royal Engineers and the Exercise First Foray director.

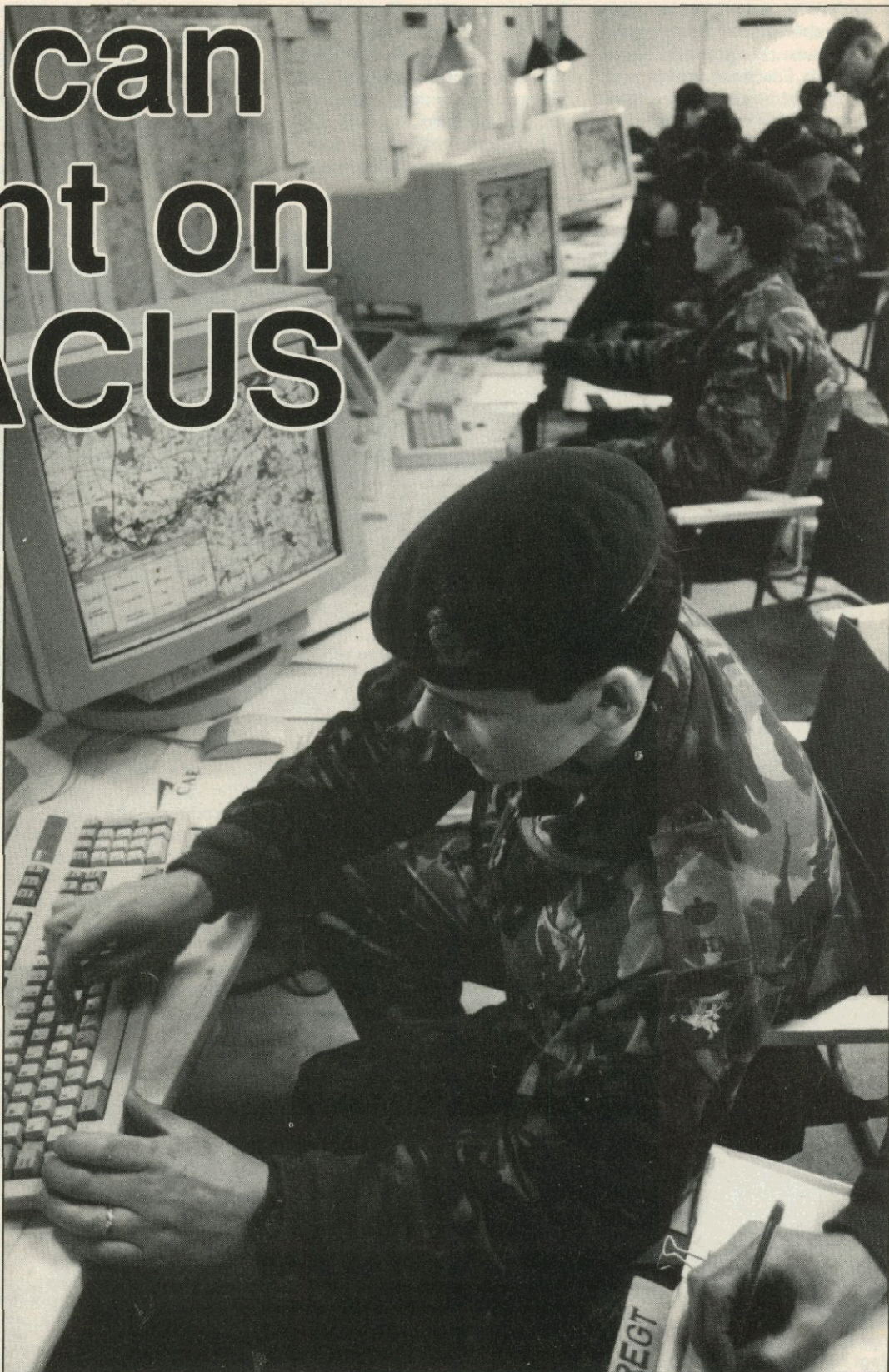
ABACUS is a transportable, computer-based battle simulation system which allows formation commanders and their staffs to exercise operational command and control procedures.

It can co-ordinate many simultaneous events and present dramatically realistic, free-play scenarios which require rapid analysis, evaluation and decisions from those being exercised – the players.

Those running the exercise, the controllers, can present timely, accurate and consistent responses to the headquarters being exercised.

ABACUS allows huge quantities of information as well as minute detail to enter commanders’ calculations. For the first time battlefield “players” can indulge in large-scale planning which involves the movement of large formations with extensive logistic, air and amphibious support.

The system can also inject a political element. Indeed First



Maj Neil Marshall, 7 RHA, operations officer for the 5 Airborne Brigade cell

Foray, the first exercise run by Land Command for 3 (UK) Division based at Picton Barracks, involved French and British divisions working together to carry out an insertion operation to deter aggres-

sion in a foreign country.

Notional forces employed were 3 Commando Brigade and 5 Airborne Brigade, plus a heavy mechanised force, which allowed a scenario with a wide range of amphibious, road and

helicopter movement details to be arranged.

For centuries soldiers in battle wondered what was over the next hill; today’s exercises on flat maps allow everybody to see the whole picture.

Traditionally, the tools for

Report: Gordon Skilling Pictures: Mike Weston

● Turn to next page

The ability to train generals

• From Page 15

controllers have been sand tables or map boards, with moveable tokens representing units on the ground. More recently, decision tables and hand-held calculators have determined the winners of exercise battles and engagements. These techniques are

complex, difficult to control and often too coarse-grained for the intricate actions being executed.

Manual techniques have not kept pace with complex battle scenarios. Controllers' responses might have been inconsistent because they were not fully conversant with the minutiae of actions executed on the battlefield.

It became difficult to integrate realistic intelligence and

logistic activity, possibly causing serious upset to the flow of an exercise.

Players could be manipulated into taking specific courses of action to conform with a pre-determined master events list; complications ignored for the sake of a smooth-running exercise.

Now maps and "bird tables" may be dispensed with at higher levels because ABACUS has returned the

field of vision to line of sight. Operators will have sight only of their own part of the picture.

They will see what they would realistically see if they were in position on the ground.

Commanders have to react to the information they receive from the battlefield. If a soldier does not report what he sees, or reports it incorrectly or up the wrong chain, the commander cannot use that information, said Col Field.

"If we do not task a resource properly, we will get nothing from it, and if a plan is full of holes, the system will exploit that. Enemy forces could keep approaching without anyone realising it," he said.

As a Higher Formation Trainer, ABACUS introduces a significant new dimension: an ability to train generals.

Divisions rarely have opportunity for intensive training, which means higher command

ers may seldom be "exercised" realistically. Usually it is the generals who brigadiers in command post exercises (CPUs) and brigade and battle group trainers.

Now, for the first time, generals would have an agile and unforgiving enemy to exercise against, said Director General of Army Training Maj Gen Rob McAfee. It would improve their training immeasurably.

"ABACUS has explosive

potential, and I am not aware of any other system in the world which has achieved this level of sophistication," he said.

The system is still being tested and has only provisionally been accepted into service. But Gen McAfee believes there is infinite capability for expansion, and with investment in its future development he is confident it will be absolutely right

ABACUS

within six months to a year.

"ABACUS really holds you to account," he said. "If you get your logistics planning wrong before the battle, your deficiency will track you all the way through and will expose some element of your plan way downstream. I would never be able to replay what has been done."

System won't allow 'cheating'

FROM the perspective of a divisional chief of staff under pressure, the ABACUS system is particularly unforgiving.

"What exercising in the past never did was ensure the plans we formalised and put into effect were proven or not," explained Col Tresham Gregg, Chief of Staff of 3 (UK) Div.

"ABACUS won't let us cheat. It works in real time and has revolutionised our ability to train in staff procedures."

As in any command post

exercise, players do not have access to the control system. Controllers send orders and instructions to players, the battle simulation system analyses the outcome of the actions, and controllers then report the results of these battles back to the players for further analysis and decision.

"It proves our planning as never before," said Col Gregg. "If you had a problem, you could remove it with a large rubber, but ABACUS won't

let you do that. It grabs you by the nose until you do something to solve the problem."

If equipment breaks or is lost through enemy action, staff officers cannot "imagine" it away as they might have done in the past.

They have to re-adjust, reprioritise and decide how to compensate for what has been lost. Because resources are not infinite, depleted stocks have to be used more efficiently.

Despite the pressure it could be "almost enjoyable" to be stretched realistically by timings and problems which were true to life, said Col Gregg.

"You could easily fudge matters before, but now you can be held accountable for your actions. If you make a mistake it will show up."

An area notorious for being fudged was the whole field of logistic support. Commanders now ignore it at their peril, and divisional staff officers will have to have made their logistic plans to the smallest detail.

If they fail to allocate enough vehicles or aircraft to move ammunition or casualties, or sufficient fuel to move people forward to seize a bridge, the plan will fail and "fog of war" will close in with a vengeance.

"It takes enormous staff resources to exercise a divisional HQ because we have to get masses of information coming up the chain," said Col John Field, Commander Royal Engineers.

The realism with which higher formations can now train is dramatically heightened because there is so much extra detail available to com-

manders. The implications of their decisions cannot be ignored: if they make a mistake and send people into a minefield, they have to deal with the casualties, extricate themselves, and find a way round. In the past, it was easier to admit a mistake and plough on.



Above - Lt Col Laurie Evanson-Goddard, a TA logistic officer from HQ Combat Service Support Group, briefs higher formation trainer controllers on logistic support

How to cope with the big picture

AS WELL as micro considerations, ABACUS can cope with the macro. It has the capability to exercise an international corps headquarters and four divisional HQs simultaneously.

The system will not supplant brigade and battle group trainers. Although ABACUS includes the brigade level of command, this is effectively to allow a divisional commander to exercise subordinate brigade HQs.

It will operate in both the UK and Germany, with 75 controller work stations based at the Combined Arms Training Centre at Warminster and another 100 at Sennelager. Both locations have their own

central processor to conduct their own independent exercises, but the two theatres can be linked for joint exercises and the system may be used in support of NATO's Rapid Reaction Corps (ARRC).

With international United Nations operations becoming more frequent, the opportunity for senior commanders and staff to exercise in this dimension could help to avoid future misunderstandings.

If their skills in high intensity operation have to be used, senior commanders will have been given the best substitute for actual command and should have a better chance of avoiding mistakes which could result in needless casualties.



The air defence cell of Maj Jonathan Sharp and Bdr Shim Taylor, 47 Regt RA, react to input from the higher formation trainer

The nuts and bolts level

FIRST Foray was particularly exciting for logistic staff officers such as Capt Justin Stanhope.

"ABACUS allows us to play the nitty gritty things which could easily be overlooked, down to single men crewing vehicles. If there are not enough men, vehicles won't move. That is the real-

ty. You cannot collect rations if you have not remembered to send a vehicle with a driver and escort, so playing the nuts and bolts level is excellent," he said.

"We are paid to solve problems, and this system allows us to solve them more frequently than before."



Above - Lt Gen Rob McAfee, Director General Army Training, hears how higher controllers Lt Woody Woodstock, 1 RTR, and Lt Andrew Mould, R Signals, are running their clutch of battle groups on ABACUS

Left - LCpl Dean Wilkinson assembles a direct wave antenna for the radio relay to 3 (UK) Div HQ

Commando sappers tough it out in Norway

"IF YOU think the commando course was bad, wait till you do the novice course in winter survival!"

These cheerful words encouraged 43 novices from Plymouth-based 59 Independent Commando Squadron Royal Engineers as they deployed to Norway to support 3 Commando Brigade Royal Marines.

The squadron took its HQ, three field troops, Support Troop, Recce Troop and 2 Troop, 49 (EOD) Sqn.

Commanded by Maj Barry Legrys, 59 ran a novice ski and survival course in addition to an infantry winter warfare course and an engineer training package. There was also a recce troop deployment, a brigade patrol troop test exercise and a series of ice dives.

A squadron test exercise was followed by Strong Resolve, a four-week NATO exercise in support of the brigade.

First tentative steps for the novices, after safety and equipment lectures, was learning to ski.

Led by Lt Simon Bell, 2 Section seemed to enjoy running up hills every morning, but nobody looked forward to the final day of ice breaking drills.

One by one, the commando sappers lined up, skied into an ice hole, removed bergans and climbed out unassisted, using only ski poles as makeshift ice axes.

A relatively comfortable night was spent in snowholes after an excellent demonstration of how to build them by SSgt Nobby Clark.

The survival phase of the exercise involved spending a night under the stars which was surprisingly comfortable. LCpl Smudge Smith was voted best overall of the 37

who completed the course.

Harsh weather hit the infantry winter warfare course. A difficult recce patrol was led by LCpl Bobby Ball and 2 Tp had a miserable night in near white-out conditions.

The sappers soon discovered that fire-and-manoeuve was not an easy operation while they were moving rapidly downhill on skis.

Recce Troop travelled south to Haugastaul for a week of parachuting, carrying out fatigue and equipment jumps before making an operational jump into Exercise White Intruder. The Hercules C130 drop on to frozen lakes with ski bundles had its problems when most of the bundles malfunctioned and went through the ice.

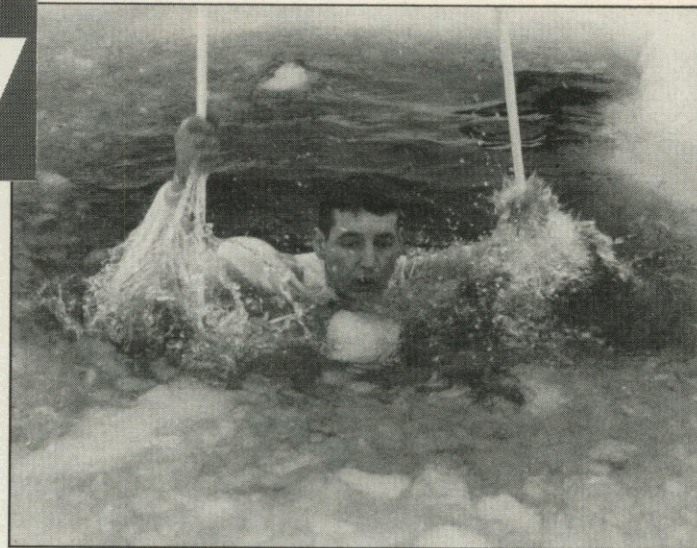
In all, 14 groups of between four and six men jumped fully equipped to spend up to nine days in the arctic environment. Moves to observation post sites were in white-out conditions.

Cpl Tam Myles's patrol found itself within 80 metres of an enemy unit which had set up camp for the night.

After three days of keeping their heads low and a short but warm move by Puma helicopter, the troop was re-inserted. For the first time in six deployments to Norway, Cpl Myles found himself in a genuine survival situation when a re-supply was delayed by bad weather.

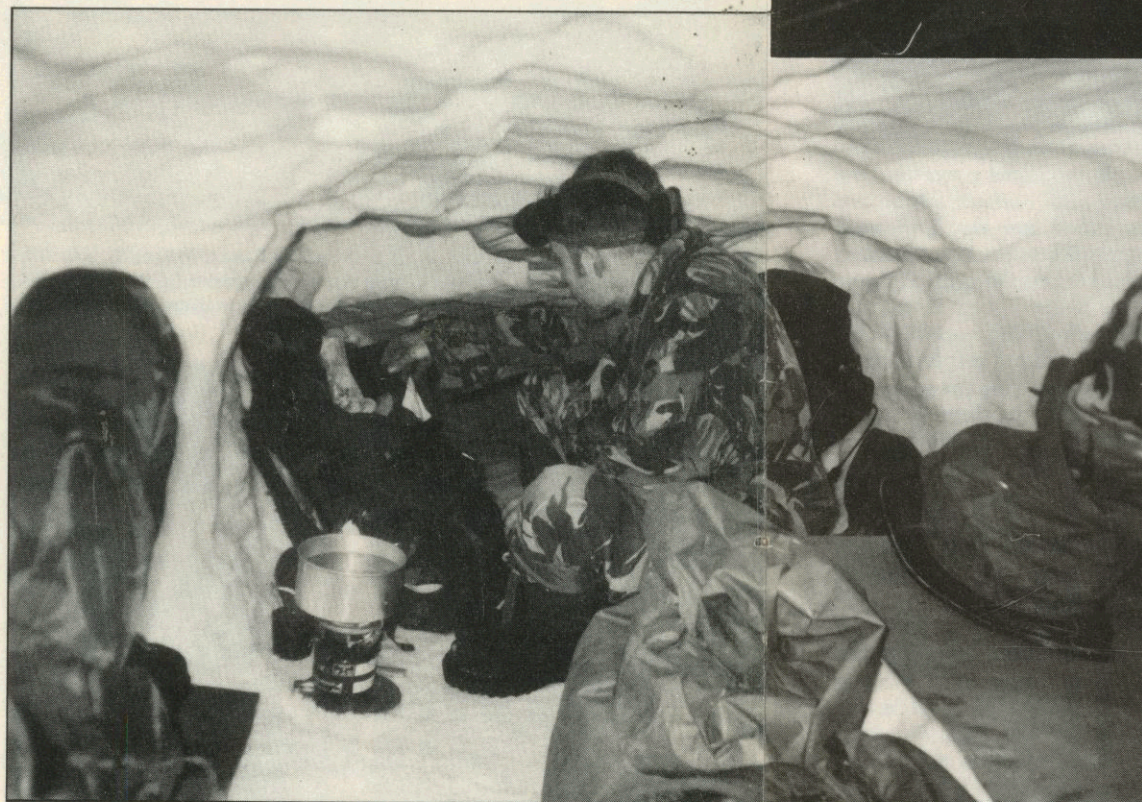
Without food or tents, he and his men moved into the tree-line to seek shelter and break into their emergency rations.

The squadron diving team spent a week helping the Norwegian Police Force to search for a body trapped under a 1km square ice-covered lake since last October.



Above - Spr Elliott experiences the joys of ice-breaking drills

Below - Home from home under the snow



"Merry miners" LCpl Taff Jarwood and Cpl Scouse Osborne dug holes and searched under the ice, repeating the process in a number of areas.

After a week, the team had nothing to show but a pile of

broken tools, a lot of dive time under ice, considerable media attention and the affection of the local community.

Two weeks of combat engineering allowed the three field troops plenty of opportunity to cover field fortifications,

improvised crossings, demolitions, water supply, work on an air-portable raft, the medium girder bridge, minelaying and minebreaching.

A squadron exercise brought more bridge demolitions, route denial tasks, minelaying

Recce troop jumps into Exercise White Intruder



Ice divers prepare to submerge

and bridging, followed by an excellent squadron final attack.

By the start of Exercise Strong Resolve the field troop was on board a Royal Navy ship carrying out anti-submarine drills, physical training and catching up on missed sleep.

After going ashore, the first

task was critical - an eight-bay medium girder bridge to keep open one of the brigade's main supply routes.

It was a difficult task, with ice underfoot a real hazard.

Each of the three sections deployed with a company behind enemy lines and although LCpl Pollard's sec-

tion stumbled on more than one enemy unit, all the bridge demolitions and route denial tasks were completed, and the enemy destroyed.

Flying or sailing back to Plymouth, the sappers could reflect on a thoroughly challenging, worthwhile and enjoyable exercise.

Norman Courtman Davies, one of the original sergeant-reporters on *Soldier's* staff in 1945, died two years ago. One of his final wishes was that his account of two dramatic days he spent in Germany in May, 50 years ago, should appear in the magazine.

It seemed particularly appropri-

ate to publish the article in *Soldier's* 50th anniversary year, and at a time when the events of half a century ago are being marked.

The article is being published in two parts. In the first, Courtman Davies has a more than friendly encounter with a Russian general on a Bailey bridge on the Elbe at

Magdeburg and is promptly jailed for "spying".

The bridge had been dubbed "Friendship Bridge" because the victorious armies of Russia and the British had come face to face across the water before withdrawing to their respective sides.

Courtman Davies arrived there

on a sunny Saturday afternoon to report a rumoured meeting on the bridge between the Russian general and a representative of 21st Army Group, scheduled for 0930 the next day. To give it a different perspective, he planned to report it from the Russian side.

Wearing his sergeant's stripes

and RAMC flashes and armed with a war correspondent's pass, a portable typewriter and – more to the point – 60 cigarettes and a bottle of Gordon's gin, he talked his way, through an interpreter, to the Russian side of the bridge and found himself dossing down with the Soviet Army to await the dawn...

Our 'spy' locked up by Russians

IT WAS light again when they wakened me. I collected my typewriter – nothing left of the gin, but there were half a dozen cigarettes – and shaking hands all round I left my comrades of the night and walked up the deserted road from the river.

After a hundred yards the road swung abruptly left round a hillock. I can't imagine what I had expected. A few tents, a building of some kind, perhaps even a caravan like Monty's.

Instead, and surprisingly, the Russian Headquarters consisted of precisely six small bentwood chairs in a firm line by the side of the road. Five of them were occupied by Russian army officers, the centre one by the general himself. The empty chair had just been vacated by the interpreter of the night before who advanced on me, shook my hand vigorously, and hoped that I had slept well.

"General Andreyev," he said, as I saluted, wondering privately what a Russian salute ought to be like and whether my British Army salute would convey the respect which I felt it ought. What does one do to a victorious Russian general? Curtsy?

The salute must have passed muster since his response was to grin and gesture to the empty bentwood chair. So I sat on it and he plied the interpreter with a rapid string of questions about me. He had to examine my papers in turn, though most of them he held upside down.

He handed them back to me, said something in a friendly tone and then took me completely by surprise, for he threw his arm around my shoulder and gave me a Russian bear-hug in the most comradely way possible. It was a way of treating sergeants quite unknown to British generals.

I noticed then the strategic importance of the line of bentwood chairs. From where we sat we had an excellent view round the hillock of the centre of Friendship Bridge and of the British approaches to it.

I glanced at my watch. It was 0925. Already I could see some activity at the British entrance to the bridge. A small

troop of foot soldiers was being drilled into position and was finally stationed on the centre of the bridge. There was no move from General Andreyev sitting next to me.

I glanced at my wrist. 0928. The general saw my glance, threw back his head in an amused roar, and flung another arm-hug round my shoulders. It was clear that he had no intention of meeting his opposite number on Friendship Bridge at 0930.

Five minutes later we could see from our vantage point that a small group of British officers had indeed advanced to the centre of the bridge and were waiting hesitantly for the arrival of the Russians. It was plain, too, that General Andreyev was quite deliberately keeping them waiting.

For almost half an hour this game was played to the amusement of the general. Then he decided it was time to go and he began the walk down to the bridge with one of his lieutenants. From our vantage point we saw him advance across Friendship Bridge and the official salute and handshake took place.

Then, without a second's pause, there began to come down the road towards us the Russian army. In the beginning it had a few tanks, armoured cars and even a few troop carriers. Within minutes they had given way to a collection of horse-drawn carts, foot soldiers and mounted guns more reminiscent of the peasant armies of 50 years previously.

But these were the men who had fought their way from Stalingrad to Berlin – and the women too – leaving behind them all their possessions and their shattered homes.

INSIDE HITLER'S BUNKER

In the second part of this article, to be published in the next issue, Courtman Davies moves on to Berlin, where he charms his way into the Reichchancellery, stumbles into Hitler's bunker and finds two Russian soldiers disagreeing over the site of the dictator's funeral pyre...

I scribbled my notes on a sheet of paper.

I counted the armoured cars, the troop carriers, the horses and the carts. I had all the material I needed for a true picture of what Friendship Bridge meant to the Russians. Very few of the men and women streaming past me would ever want to return to the desolation created in their homeland by the Nazis. For them Friendship Bridge was the gateway to their new homeland. They were an occupying army.

It was then that the Red Army officer who had taken the general's place by my side began to take an interest in my notes. He took them from me. He tried to make something of them, but in vain. I looked around for the help of the interpreter who could explain about *Soldier* magazine, but he had vanished.

My notes vanished, too, into the pocket of the Red Army officer. He wasn't smiling now. There was no repetition of the bear hugs. Instead he called out an order, two strange NCOs arrived from nowhere like genies from a bottle and in response to his unsmiling gesture of waving me away they led me firmly from the scene in the opposite direction from Friendship Bridge.

No handcuffs, of course, no frog-marching. They let me carry my typewriter and my empty pack shorn of its gin and most of its cigarettes. They didn't speak any English, or French, or German. They gestured unmistakably.

After a few hundred yards we'd arrived at the edge of the town. And almost the first building had a very municipal look. Not surprisingly, for when we got inside it and had walked down the first flight of steps it was quite obviously the town gaol. Quite politely they took away my typewriter but left me my pack and locked me in the first cell behind the bars.

It was a large cell, quite like an American gaol in the old Wild West. They left me then to ponder, and ponder I did. I knew that the hand-over at Friendship Bridge had involved the Red Army moving forward to some new and undefined frontier.

I was now an unknown number of miles

behind the Russian lines and behind bars. My offence seemed to be that of making notes about the Red Army. But then, what else is spying? What did the Red Army do with spies?

I decided to think no more along those lines. I still had my pack. I took out my half dozen cigarettes, called out "Excuse me", which seemed as good a way as any of bringing the guard, even if meaningless, and indeed he came.

I showed him my cigarette, offered him one through the bars and indicated that I needed a light. He obliged. And willingly took one. I let a few seconds pass and tried French. But it meant nothing.

I took my safety razor from my pack and mimed that I needed a shave but had no water. He shrugged his shoulders. So I showed him my empty mess tin and he brightened and took it away. He brought it back with hot water in it, but more importantly over his shoulder he carried a towel.

Even better, after putting my mess tin with the hot water down on the ground, he went away and came back almost immediately with a wooden chair. He unlocked the cell door, brought in the chair, put the mess tin on it, and then with a smile performed the most friendly gesture of all by taking from his pocket a small mirror which he then set up on the chair. Then he went out

and left me carefully locked up in the cell.

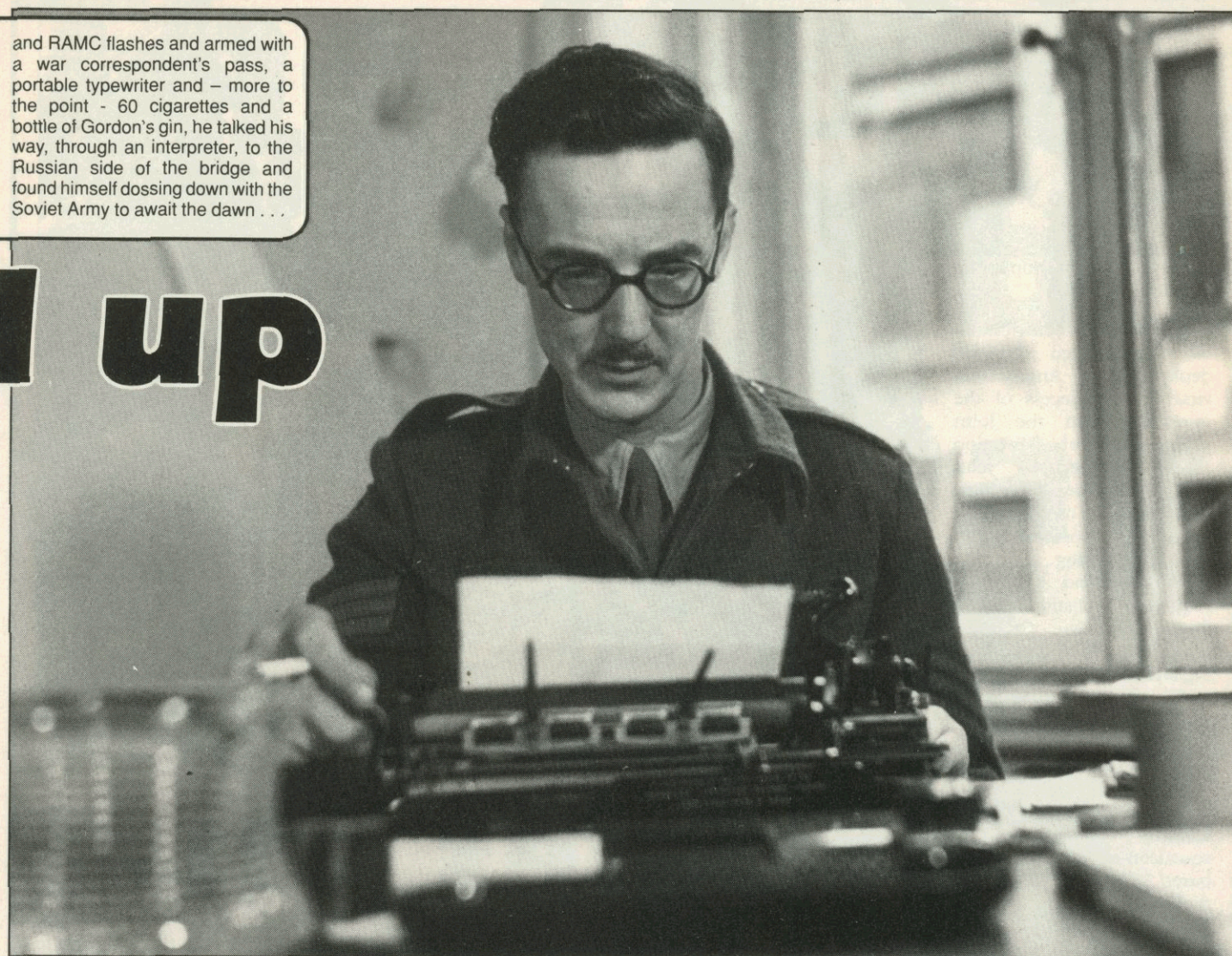
This hardly seemed the harsh treatment which a possible spy could expect. Plainly there were only two real possibilities. Either I was just being kept out of the way until the transfer of the frontier had been completed and would then be released. Or I was being given the treatment reserved for the condemned man and was due to be shot in an hour. Either way it would soon be over.

The shave completed, the friendly gaoler emptied the water from my mess tin and tucked away his pocket mirror, but left me the chair. He brought another chair and sat down outside the bars. Plainly he had nothing else to do.

A shaft of sunlight came into the prison from the high window and sitting in the pool of warmth he began to hum softly to himself almost as a cat would have purred.

Listening to his humming I realised with delight that it was nothing other than my old school-day friend *Frère Jacques*, so I joined in with the French version. He grinned that we should both know such a simple folk tune and seemed delighted that it should be a "round" which we could take up from each other.

He gestured me to stop and wait and went out into the corridor, returning in two or three minutes with a second guard and another chair. To my complete puzzle-



Sergeant-reporter Courtman Davies at work in the Hamburg office of *Soldier* in 1945. A thriller writer for the BBC before the war, his role on *Soldier* was to travel around the British zone gathering news

ment, each of them carried what seemed to me to be a triangle of polished wood with strings. I had made my first contact with a balalaika. Down they sat on the two chairs and then began a free concert of Russian folk songs, accompanying themselves on the stringed triangles. The next half-hour slid by.

It was now 1030 and as the minute hand touched the half-hour they ceased. They pointed to the clock on the prison wall. Smilingly, they unlocked the cell gate. We shook hands and they led me outside. The Russian troops had passed. The take-over was completed and I had no idea how far the British forces had withdrawn or how far I was within the Russian lines. The deserted road offered not a single clue.

And then slowly into view coming up from the river bank was the most welcome sight for days. A small army truck driven by Cpl Bill Sharland, my very own driver.

He stopped and grinned at me. "Mornin', Sarge. Where the hell did you get to last night?"

"How did you know where I was?" "I didn't," he said. "But I knew you'd crossed the bridge yesterday and never came back so I thought I'd better look. That unit we were with the night before have all gone. The Russians have taken over Magdeburg." (To be continued)



Troops leave Brize Norton for Angola

THE BRITISH contribution to the United Nations deployment to Angola was vital to the success of the operation, said the Joint Commander of Operation Chantress, Gen Sir John Wilsey, before he bade farewell to the main party at RAF Brize Norton, **writes Gordon Skilling.**

The UN had specifically requested logistic support from Britain, one of the few countries capable of providing it for such a force.

The British contribution, based on 9 Supply Regiment Royal Logistic Corps from Hullavington, is divided between two ports. The headquarters is at Lobito, with a squadron-sized group based 250 miles away at the capital Luanda, headquarters of the UN Angola Verification Mission (UNAVEM III).

While the force is due to remain in theatre for only 90 days, six officers have been allocated to UNAVEM's HQ and will remain to complete a full six-month UN tour.

A small contingent of mainly RAF personnel is based at the Catumbela military airfield 15km south of Lobito. Because the airfield at Catumbela cannot handle larger aircraft, the party flew by Tristar or VC10 to Ascension Island, and then by Hercules to Angola.

As the main body was leaving, about half the contingent of 645 were already in theatre preparing for their arrival and that of six infantry battalions and a field hospital from Brazil, India, Pakistan, Romania, Uruguay and Zimbabwe.

The arrival of the British had created a tremendous amount of interest, said Operations Officer Capt Peter Yarnold.

"Living conditions are rea-



Cpl John Claddingbowl (left) of 17 Port and Maritime Regiment and Sgt Kit Curry of 20 Fd Sqn RE carry out pre-dive checks before an estuary survey to establish a supply of water for purification at Casa Invicta in Angola

Loggies' vital task in Angola



Gen Sir John Wilsey bids farewell to Pte Steve Plant, LCpl Andy Steals and Pte Robert Alvin of 29 Regt RLC

Right - Commander of the medics is Maj Neill Hepburn

sonably hard, but we are settling in and becoming acclimatised, and are looking forward to doing a good job."

Although the contingent includes a company of Welsh Guards, WO2 Stephen Evelyn does not expect trouble.

The health of British soldiers in Angola was the first

priority of the advance party, said Maj Neill Hepburn, 2iC of 4 Field Ambulance RAMC.

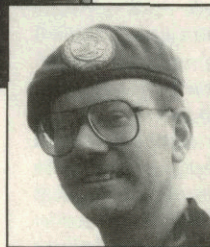
"I was involved in setting up the reception medical facility during the Gulf War and this operation will be similar, but on a smaller scale," he said.

The detachment of 45 from 4 Field Ambulance and 22 Field Hospital, both based at Aldershot, is able to provide a 25-bed hospital for the British contingent.

Environmental health technicians would be one of the busier units and were crucial to the well-being of the force.

Sappers from 20 Field Squadron, normally based in Invicta Barracks, Maidstone, have been hard at work preparing accommodation as well as purifying water.

They are already well established - in a former winery. Their HQ has been christened Casa Invicta and will also house the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers' workshop and any other engineering assets that are brought into theatre.



The Army does its bit for VE Day +50

IN LONDON's Hyde Park and around the regions, the Army – Regular and Territorial – played its part in helping the nation celebrate the 50th anniversary of the end of the Second World War in Europe earlier this month.

Setting the scene in the huge main arena within the park as veterans assembled before the Queen Mother formally opened the three-day event on Saturday, May 6 were, among others, the Mounted Bands of The Life Guards and The Blues and Royals, a combined band formed by the Grenadier and Welsh Guards, and pipes and drums from 1st Battalion, Scots Guards and the 1st Royal Tank Regiment.

In a welcoming address, Fd Marshal Sir Peter Inge, Chief of the Defence Staff, said that the honours won in the Second World War were among those proudly displayed by the Forces and that "...the Desert Rats are still very much part of the present-day Army."

After a brief drumhead service, during which the *Last Post* and a minute's silence were followed by *Reveille* by trumpeters of The Household Cavalry, Prime Minister John Major addressed those assembled in the arena.

"The institutions which have grown up since 1945 – the



Picture: Mike Perring

Former Irish Guard Arthur Jobbins shares a few VE Day memories with Dmr Paul Jennings, Gren Gds

United Nations, NATO and others – may be imperfect. Conflict still erupts around the globe. But they represent a consistent effort to find a better way to resolve disputes than by war," he said.

Sometimes, the Prime Minister added, those who spoke of the wartime sense of community said it could not happen now.

But in the Falklands and Gulf conflicts the same nation-

al spirit was evident. After the official opening by the Queen Mother, veterans, led by holders of the Victoria and George Crosses and followed, among others, by in-pensioners from

● Turn to next page



Sight for young eyes: Cpl Kevin Kelleher, Army Cadet Force, explains the intricacies of a rifle to a youthful enthusiast as crowds gathered in a sunny Hyde Park

● From Page 23

the Royal Hospital, Chelsea, and members of the Royal British Legion, marched stiffly past.

Right on cue, as the last of them was leaving the arena, representatives of the current military generation – the Red Devils free fall display team, The Parachute Regiment and the RAF's Falcons display team – dropped from the sky, trailing coloured smoke.

The mounted bands and musical ride of The Household Cavalry Mounted Regiment, and the musical drive by The King's Troop, Royal Horse Artillery in the main arena, got the celebrations off to a flying start.

In the veterans' centre – based on last year's similar enterprise in Portsmouth at the D-Day commemorations – former comrades were reunited.

Military marshals at the Hyde Park event, which was conceived by master showman and former Queen's Own Hussar Maj Michael Parker, were warrant officers, NCOs and guardsmen of the Household Division.

Helping to keep the crowds in the park entertained on the following day were marching bands from the Royal British Legion based at Romford, Wyre and Surbiton.

In the main arena that afternoon, at a ceremony of peace and reconciliation attended by international heads of state and their representatives, Army bands were much in evidence again, supplemented by



"Wonder where I'll be 100 years after VE Day?" thinks this would-be guardsman outside Buckingham Palace

fanfare trumpeters from the Royal Military School of Music, Kneller Hall.

On Monday – the anniversary of VE Day itself – the bands of The Grenadier and Welsh Guards, the pipes and drums of 1st Battalion, Scots Guards and 1st Royal Tank Regiment and Army Cadets entertained the huge crowds in Hyde Park before a band led the crowd, Pied Piper-like, to the Mall and a celebration outside Buckingham Palace.

In the evening, pikemen and musketeers from the historic,



Subedar Major (Sgt Maj) Umraq Singh VC, who won his medal during the Burma Campaign, talks to the Queen Mother in the veterans' tent

City of London-based Honourable Artillery Company were among those who lined the royal route as the Queen entered the arena to light the first of a chain of symbolic beacons across the British Isles, to the sound of a fanfare.

Over the three days, the trackway across the park – carefully laid down by members of 50 Field Squadron (Construction) RE, 36 Engineer Regiment – was well-used, though fortunately the weather had been kind.

Brig Tom Longland, Project

Manager Director Defence Personnel, the overall co-ordinator of the celebration, could feel happy.

The next task will be the much more serious commemoration in August of the end of the Second World War – VJ Day.

● Elsewhere, Army personnel of all ranks were much in evidence at other events in Britain and overseas.

In **England**, the Kings Normandy Band and the Lancashire Artillery Band were involved in concerts, services

and parades in Blackpool and Liverpool.

Members of 103 Artillery Regiment (TA) attended the VE Day Service in Blackpool, while Brig Jeremy Gaskell, Commander 42 (North West) Brigade, attended the largest event of its kind in the North West – a parade and service at Liverpool Cathedral.

A number of units, including

5/8 Kings, 156 Transport Regiment RLC and elements of 103 Regiment, took part.

An open day held at Tatton Park in Cheshire included soldiers from 2 RRF, 3 Cheshire and 5/8 Kings.

In neighbouring Manchester, members of 75 Engineer Regiment and a company from 5/8 Kings were present at a service in the city's cathedral.



Above – Symbolic dove of peace suspended over the huge crowd, joint Service bands and massed choir at the Service of Peace and Reconciliation held in the main arena

Left – The Queen arrives at Westminster Hall to address both Houses of Parliament to mark the VE Day anniversary

JAMIE LEE VISITS SOLDIER

AMONG hundreds of visitors to the *Soldier* stand in Hyde Park on VE Day was the film star Jamie Lee Curtis. The American actress, in England to make a

follow-up to *A Fish Called Wanda*, bought three souvenir postcard books depicting front covers from early issues of the magazine.

An ecumenical service in Southport on May 8 featured the Kings Normandy Band, and a parade in Preston the same day included 4 QLR, 5 Field Ambulance and the North West Infantry TA band.

Carlisle was the scene of a service and parade attended by 4 Kings Own Border, while the Royal Mercian and Lancastrian Yeomanry and the King's Shropshire (The Light Infantry) Volunteers were involved in a commemorative event in Oswestry and a freedom parade at Bridgnorth

respectively. Also exercising the freedom of a town were 300 soldiers from the Regular 1st Battalion and TA 3rd Battalion, The Duke of Wellington's Regiment, who marched through the centre of Barnsley on May 8 with fixed bayonets and flying their colours.

They were led by the Waterloo Band and the Corps of Drums of the 1st Battalion.

In **Scotland**, the Army provided support for various VE commemoration events held all over the country.

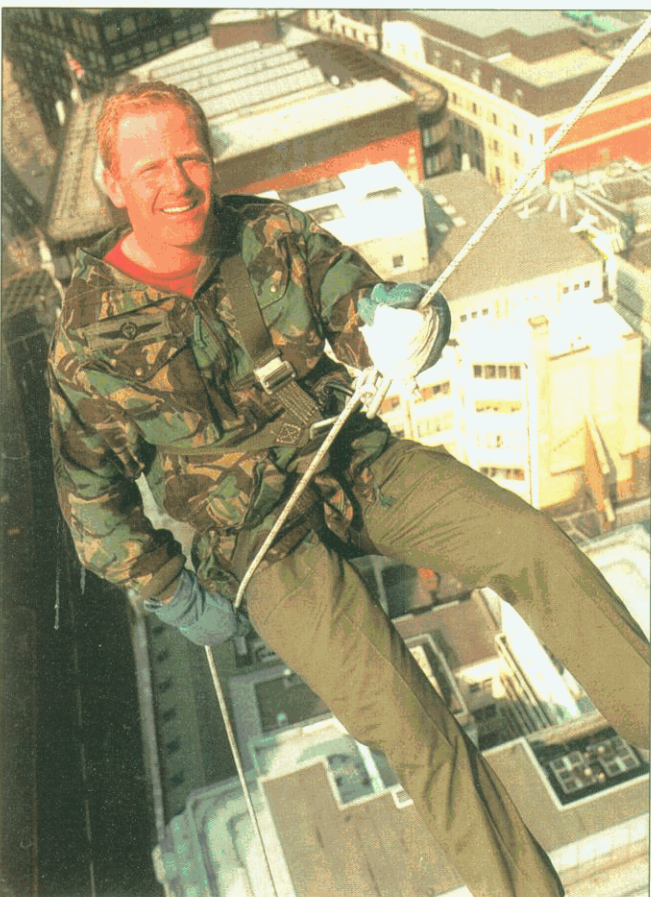
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Above – Musicians from the Bands of the Household Division add a musical flourish to the opening ceremony of the VE Day 50th anniversary event in Hyde Park

Pictures: Terry Champion, Mike Weston, Mike Perring

Musn Mike Cayton, Gren Gds, puckers up for a young admirer before joining his band to march down The Mall to play for the Queen at Buckingham Palace on VE Day

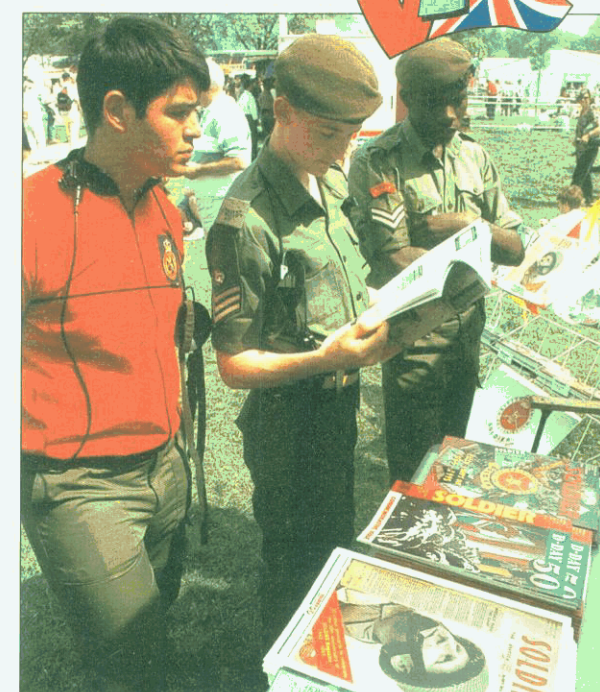


CSgt John Tovey hangs 250ft above London from the old Barclays Bank Building in Fenchurch Street before breaking the world abseiling record with nine other soldiers from the 10th Battalion, The Parachute Regiment. The special VE Day attempt on the record produced 1,427 descents in eight hours – a combined distance of 108.92km – and raised £88,000 for Imperial Cancer Research and the Mental Health Foundation. The record had been held by the Royal Marines



Above – Flag day on a Challenger 2 main battle tank for children visiting the military vehicle exhibition in Hyde Park. Keeping an eye on the proceedings are (from left) SSgt Mick Holbrook KRH and Staff Cpls Bill Reade and Steve Hunter of the Life Guards

Right – Army cadets visit the *Soldier* stand during a break from their own duties in Hyde Park. The magazine attracted huge interest during the event



THE ROYAL LOGISTIC CORPS



Left – British Army "posties" were hard at work in Hyde Park selling special VE/VJ commemorative covers. From left to right are Sgt Mark Taylor, Cpl Tina Kocakerim, Capt Denis Dillon and WO2 Cameron Hill. Proceeds from the sale of the covers, commissioned by the British Forces Post Office to mark the 50th anniversary of the end of the Second World War, will be given to Service charities. The covers are available until August and details of how to obtain them are available from the Philatelic Officer, BFPO 777



Lt Gen Sir Michael Rose, Deputy C-in-C HQ Land Command and former commander of United Nations troops in Bosnia, talks to schoolchildren after he had unveiled a commemorative tablet in Aldershot to mark 50 years of peace in Europe. The youngsters, from 11 local schools which raised money for the bench, completed the planting of a copse of trees in the town's Municipal Gardens. Known as Pegasus Grove, the 300 trees on the site have been grown from Arnhem oak saplings. The project was co-ordinated by the Airborne Forces Trust



Left - Solemnity at sea: members of the British contingent deployed on the United Nations peace-keeping enforcement mission in Angola at a VE Day commemorative service held on the flight deck of the RFA Sir Galahad

Below - The honour guard from the British Logistic Battalion, UK UNPROFOR, Split, under the command of Capt John Brown, marches from the port to the British cemetery on the Croatian island of Vis for a VE Day service of remembrance at which LCpl Jason Graham, RWF, played the Last Post



Picture: Chris Fletcher



Picture: Mike Perring



Picture: Mike Weston

Col Mike Lake, Regimental Colonel RLC, waves goodbye to a team who were leaving from the RLC's barracks at Deepcut on a three-seater bicycle on the VE Day anniversary, destined for the Tower of London. The team, left to right WO2 John Corfield, WO1 Rick Pearson and Capt Fiona Reid, were hoping to raise money to join 100 other riders who will be cycling from St Petersburg to Moscow next month for a Russian children's charity. Also waving them off are RSM Gerald Paul and Maj John Gout, wearing old Russian and British uniforms respectively

Left - Assault Pioneer Col Sgt Tom Wilson-Hutton-Stott (proudly sporting the full beard to which only Pioneer sergeants are entitled in the Army) leads Lt Col Barry Paddison, RGBW and his four companies of 2 Wessex through Reading's Forbury Gardens after marching through the town centre ahead of World War Two veterans as part of the VE Day commemorations

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On May 7, a service in Glasgow Cathedral was attended by senior officers from all three Services, while a similar event on the same day at Elgin Cathedral, which was followed by a march past, included contingents from the 3rd (Volunteer) Battalion, The Highlanders, 236 and 237 Airfield Damage Repair Squadrons (Volunteer) and detachments from the Army Cadet Force.

The Princess Royal and the most senior members in Scotland of the Army, Royal Navy and Royal Air Force joined a commemoration service the following day in St Giles Cathedral in Edinburgh.

A similar event in Nairn the same day was attended by the Pipes and Drums of the 1st Battalion, The Royal Scots, and other members of the regiment.

Col Martin Gibson, Chief of Staff at HQ Scotland, who co-ordinated the tri-Service VE arrangements in Scotland, said: "We worked closely with the Scottish Office, Royal British Legion and others to ensure that everything went smoothly and that the events were well publicised."

"Besides the Edinburgh service, there were events throughout Scotland from Stranraer in the west, Aberdeen in the north and right down to the Borders, and all three Armed Services were

represented at most events. It was marvellous to see the events pass off so smoothly."

In Wales, a Service of thanksgiving was held at Llandaff Cathedral in Cardiff, at which senior Army representatives were present, while in Northern Ireland, where a similar service took place at St Anne's Cathedral in Belfast, the GOC Northern Ireland, Lt Gen Sir Roger Wheeler, opened a "D Day to Victory" exhibition in Crumlin.

During his visit to the exhibition, held at Langford Lodge Wartime Centre and featuring a collection of artefacts and uniforms of The Royal Ulster Rifles, the GOC met up again with 71-year-old William McConnell.

As a company sergeant major, Mr McConnell had served with him in the regiment's 1st Battalion in Borneo in 1964, when the general was a lieutenant commanding a platoon.

The former CSM had also served with the GOC's father, Maj Gen Norman Wheeler, in Germany and Cyprus in the late 1950s and early 1960s.

In Jersey and other parts of the Channel Islands, where a five-day Festival of Liberation was held, Gen Sir John Wilsey, C-in-C Land Command and Gen Mike Jackson, GOC 3 (UK) Division, were both in attendance.

Elements of the division were involved in the events,

including the Royal Engineers Band, Canterbury-based 2 PWRR and 5 PWRR (TA), the Infantry Mobile Display Team and 156 Provost Company, RMP.

Their involvement was co-ordinated by 73 Engineer Regiment, Chilwell.

A number of commemorative events and church services, including some organised by the Royal British Legion, were held in Germany, all part of a series of such events which have been taking place throughout the year as war-time anniversaries occur.

Gen Scott Grant, GOC UK Support Command (Germany), took part in a live broadcast from Cologne, the Royal Tank Regiment Band played at a commemoration service at a cemetery in Münster and elements of 20

Brigade participated in a parade in Paderborn.

At HQ 1 (UK) Armoured Division at Herford, VE Day was a case of "business as usual", with staff playing it low key.

For the UK United Nations Protection Force in Croatia and Bosnia, the VE Day anniversary was also "just another working day", apart from a service of remembrance at the British cemetery on the small Croatian island of Vis, to honour members of the British Forces who died working alongside Tito's partisans.

The island was the only one in the Adriatic which was not occupied by the Germans during the war, when it was the headquarters of 3 Commando Brigade, with a small airfield.

Attending the ceremony, at which members of the British

Logistic Battalion, currently based in Split, made up a guard of honour, were representatives from the Croatian government and Navy and former Yugoslav partisans.

The 50th anniversary was marked in Angola with a service on board the Royal Fleet Auxiliary ship Sir Galahad, attended by British soldiers

from the UN peace-keeping mission based in the country.

Apart from commemorating the occasion in Britain, some ex-Servicemen travelled overseas.

More than 100 members of the Polar Bear 49 (West Riding) Division Association joined colleagues from the Essex Regiment Association,

the 49th Midland Brigade (TA) and 4th Battalion Lincolnshire Regiment to attend VE Day parades and services in The Netherlands, where more than 2,000 former Servicemen were gathered.

At a memorial service in Ede, the Polar Bears were presented with liberation medals, before travelling to Wagenin-

gen, which the Essex Regiment had liberated.

In Arnhem, where a concert was put on in the town hall, a plaque was unveiled to the 49th West Riding Division.

Accompanying the soldiers was the Royal British Legion Youth Band from Brentwood, whose youngest members are a mere eight years old.

Single parents who need our support

THE FAMILY is under scrutiny both in the civilian and Service communities. In particular, the definition of what constitutes a family is a matter of much discussion.

Unmarried mothers and lone parents are no longer uncommon, and agencies which have to house and care for them are having to face up to reality.

Comments made by Denise Chaganis, chairman of the Federation of Army Wives (Germany), reported in *Soldier* and elsewhere, regarding the problems which these families will face if accepted into the Service way of life, were broadly welcomed by those who heard her, and she is to be congratulated for raising them again.

However, for my part, I hope her comments were clearly signalled as a personal contribution to the on-going debate and were not an indication that the Federation is likely to be unhelpful to women – and men – who find themselves in this unenviable position.

One of the strengths of Service life is the cohesion of the community. The topic of soldier mothers has been discussed at length and the arguments are very well known.

Married or single, they exist in increasing numbers, and their presence has been a challenge for more than one person trying to run a unit already overstretched and under pressure.

This debate has to be undertaken with care, and I would urge those taking part to exercise all their powers of compassion.

In her speech to the Adjutant General's conference, Denise Chaganis quoted this column in referring to the access given the FAW by the MoD. If she is a regular reader she will know that I have also exhorted them to use that gift wisely.

When the FAW came into being I was a fairly sea-

soned Army wife. I was told that I was automatically a member, whether I chose to associate myself with it or not, and the organisation would speak on my behalf.

I didn't apply to join, I didn't vote for my representative and I had no control over what was said about the conditions in which I lived.

This gave those who spoke for me enormous power. It remains the case.

These days the Federation still claims to speak on behalf of the community of Army wives. But the community has changed. I hope all those given the gift of a public platform are sure of their ground before they speak, and that they clearly signal when the arguments they put forward are generally held, and when they are the product of personal reflection.

On the sensitive matter of pregnancy, soldier mothers and lone parents, I

have had letters and calls from, and meetings with, many men and women on all sides of the debate for whom the issue has had a personal resonance.

Every one of them evoked feelings of compassion. It is clear to me that life has moved on since I joined the life of the camp follower 20 years ago when it would have been unthinkable to have an unmarried mother next door.

In all those years I met only one lone father, a widower, and he was treated with kindness and sympathy.

That, to me, was an indication of the way in which the Army looked after its extended family. It adapted to accommodate those who needed help.

No one becomes a lone parent without a great deal of agony and soul-searching. No Servicewoman throws away years of training and commitment by casually conceiving a child.

Then there's the economic argument. These days it is seen as a waste of

resources to spend huge sums of money training people only to get rid of them when they become responsible for a child.

The Americans have had to face up to this and have made changes. My older American Service friends don't like it and, in my heart, I have to say that neither do I. But I'm not a young Servicewoman. Neither am I a young Army wife who is part of the next generation.

The time has come for me to listen rather than preach, although I am acutely aware that mine is only one of many voices.

It is time to make way for the young serving men and women who face challenges I would not have dreamed possible all those years ago.

The Bett Review envisaged a Service environment 15 years hence. It assumed that changes in civilian society would be reflected in the Services.

Given that this will be the case – and I think it will – we must prepare ourselves

to meet that challenge. Now is the time to make constructive contributions to the debate.

The reality is that many will find the demands of a life of duty and the requirements of parenthood irreconcilable and they will leave. That is not an excuse for us to put obstacles in their way.

Neither should we be seen to be discouraging them or making them feel excluded.

It will be difficult, but those who claim to speak on behalf of families – and I am not singling out any one organisation – must be aware that they have a duty to speak for everyone, whether they conform to traditional notions of family or not.

And whether we, personally, approve their decision or not.

The military environment is highly charged because recent changes to legislation have forced us all to confront a problem shelved for far too long.

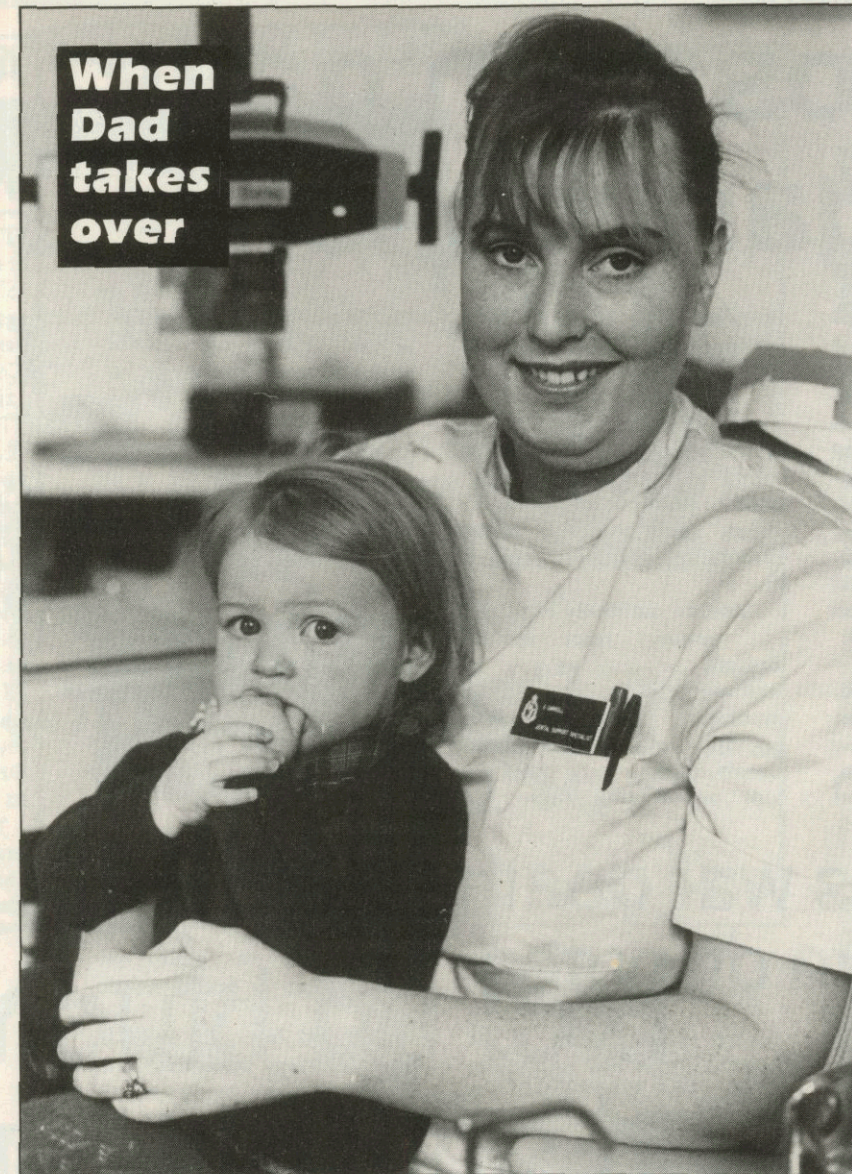
I am delighted the issues have been brought into focus so sharply by the Federation of Army Wives.

My hope is that they continue to take soundings from all their membership and to reflect popular opinion as well as personal conclusions.

Both are valid, as long as it is clear which is which.

● Cari Roberts presents *Counterpoint* on BFBS radio. Write to her at BFBS, BFPO 786; or c/o *Soldier*.

When Dad takes over



Picture: Mike Weston

Dental Support Specialist Cpl Geraldine Carroll, based at the medical centre of the 2nd Battalion, The Royal Anglian Regiment in Celle, Germany, has no complaints about a reversal of roles – with the Army's co-operation. While she acts as the family breadwinner, husband Andrew, until recently a trooper with 2nd Royal Tank Regiment at Fallingbomel, looks after daughter

Lauren (pictured) at home. "It has been a bit of a culture shock," said Geraldine, who has been at the centre for 18 months, "but the Army – and 2 Dental Group, Primary Health and Dental Care Services (Germany) – have been very helpful."

And Andrew? "Without being sexist, I must admit I've got a lot more respect for housewives these days," he says.

Fewer teachers hit by job cuts

FEARS that as many as 40 Service Children's Schools (North West Europe) secondary teachers could face compulsory redundancy have proved unfounded.

SCS(NWE) chief executive Ian Mitchelson has announced that the Defence Agency has been able to reduce the number of formal redundancy

notices issued to 16. Over the past three years the agency has faced a reduction in school rolls of about 50 per cent as a result of the drawdown in Germany. The agency has contact with every local authority in

the United Kingdom to track down vacancies for teachers facing redundancy. Enhanced early retirement and severance packages have also helped to bring down the number of compulsory redundancies, said Mr Mitchelson.

He added that SCS(NWE) schools had continued to receive excellent reports from Government inspectors, and that exam results had matched or exceeded those of most schools in the UK.

REVISED general guides to social security benefits in line with legislative changes and increases in payments which became effective in April are contained in a new guide published by the Benefits Agency. Which benefit? (FB 2, from April 1995) is available from DSS offices.

It's Rhine Army Summer Show time

June 3, 4 & 5 – and this year's show looks to be bigger and better than ever

Main arena events include:

- * Free Fall parachutists
- * The Police Band of Budapest
- * The Queen's Colour Squadron of the RAF
- * The Normandy Band
- * The Band of Her Majesty's Dragoon Guards
- * RAF Police Dog Team
- * Paragliding – the opportunity to participate!

AND MUCH MUCH MORE!

INCLUDING:

Fun Fair * Show Jumping
It's a Knockout * Polo
Doggy Olympics * Tug o' War

The Rhine Army Summer Show
Bad Lippspringe
Paderborn



The Band of Her Majesty's Dragoon Guards

Shhhhhhh

THE Royal British Legion's campaign to reinstate the two-minute silence for VE Day was an outstanding success.

At least 2,000 official silences were kept in the moments before the Queen lit a beacon in Hyde Park on May 8, and the Legion believes that with radio and television stations joining in, many airports, places of public transport, pubs and fast food chains took part.

The Legion thinks about two thirds of the nation paid heed to the two minutes of silent remembrance.

Chalky's place in need of home comforts

CHALKY White served in the Queen's Regiment before transferring to the Parachute Regiment during the Second World War.

Today, aged 73, he is a resident at the Princess Christian Home in the Isle of Wight, one of the residential nursing homes run by the Forces Help Society (FHS) and Lord Roberts Workshops.

Chalky, who was wounded and captured at Arnhem, spent the rest of the war in a PoW camp.

He remembers vividly the gifts, clothes, sweets and cigarettes he received on VE Day in 1945 while recuperating in hospital.

Work to enlarge the Isle of Wight home is complete, but funds are required to furnish it and acquire specialist equipment. Miss Ann Finley, of the FHS and Lord Roberts Workshop, 122 Brompton Road, London SW3 1JE (tel 0171 589 3243) would like to hear from anyone who can help.

Playschool receives award of excellence

HUMPTY Dumpty Playschool in Monxton Road, Andover, has been awarded the Pre-school Learning Alliance accreditation.

It received the charity's kite mark from Lt Col Noel McCleery, CO RDG at a ceremony on May 9.

Maj Colin Wolfe RLC, Deputy Camp Commandant, said the award reflected months of hard work by supervisor Jenny Colbourne and her staff.

The playschool was founded 25 years ago and has 50 children registered.

● Queen Mary's Nursery in Aldershot received the accreditation in March.

FRANCHISE hotline: For advice and guidance on owning a franchise, ring 01603 620301.

Proposal on gays 'beggars belief'

HUNDREDS of good folk from near and far showed their appreciation of our corps and the traditions of the British Army at the annual Freedom parade of the Corps of Royal Engineers Stratford-upon-Avon.

My pleasure was marred, however, when I read in my morning paper of a political proposal to allow homosexuals in HM Forces.

In *Kinsey, Sex and Fraud - The Indoctrination of a People*, the mid-1940s alleged research of Alfred C Kinsey was exposed by Reisman, Erchel, John H Court, and

Gordon Muir. Their learned work, using modern research methods, found that only one in 100 Americans have homosexual tendencies, while only recently our own UK Wellcome Trust report found the ratio to be about one in 90. Of these, as in America, most choose to lead moral, celibate lives.

Men are naturally attracted to women, which causes enough problems as it is to management, not least in HM warships. That politicians should, without consulting senior military staff, advocate this policy with regard to

homosexuals I find incredible.

The close living relationships peculiar to Service life, especially on active service, need no reiteration in these columns. To imagine homosexual lovers, especially of different rank, being allowed to serve together beggars belief. - **C T Wareing, Redditch, Worcs.**

Civvy tailors smartened up Brit soldiers

I HAVE just read with interest and some amusement an article in *Soldier* about the Tri-Service Defence Clothing and Textiles Authority. It is an organisation we could have done with in the Second World War.

When I was called up in early 1945 we were thrown a couple of tatty battle dresses that stank with anti-gas powder and fitted where they touched, plus three US Army shirts which were actually good quality and quite stylish.

Our greatcoats were far too big and when wet took weeks to dry. Our boots took weeks to break in, with the consequent blisters. Our gaiters usually parted company with our boots and were most uncomfortable, though I suppose they were better than the old puttees.

On top of that I was given an old forage cap which constantly fell off during drill.

I could go on and on about our kit but we made the most of it. While on service in Italy and other places we always managed to find a civilian tailor to do alterations which made our uniforms look fairly smart. This led to strife on our return to the UK, but that's another story!

I hope this letter causes a bit of amusement. I should add that on the whole I enjoyed my service. - **Denis Hope (ex-1 RHA, Italy, Egypt, Palestine, 1946-48), 307 Morley Drive, Lockridge, W Australia 6054.**

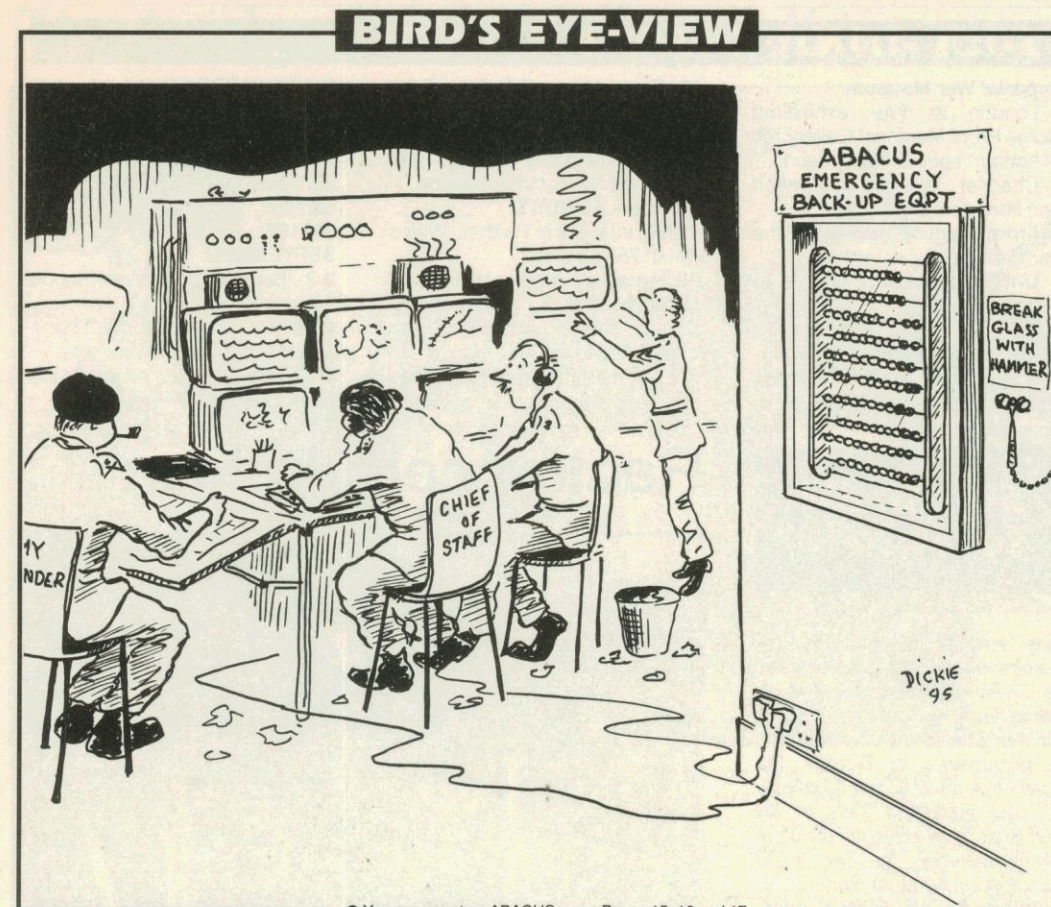
A TITLE TO PRESERVE TRADITIONS

IT WAS announced recently that 8 LI (V) will convert to form a national defence reconnaissance regiment as part of the Royal Armoured Corps.

May I put forward the title "The King's Own Yorkshire (Light Infantry) Yeomanry" for consideration by the Army Council as a possible name for the new unit.

Although this title is somewhat of a hybrid, its adoption would ensure that the traditions won by predecessor units (4 and 5 KOYLI) during two world wars will not be lost, and at the same time will enable the regiment to identify with its new recce role.

It will also be a fine opportunity to resurrect a grand old regimental title. - **R A Hamilton, Southport.**



● You can count on ABACUS - see Pages 15, 16 and 17

Lowland Gunners praised

ON BEHALF of Broomhall Saints Boys Club, Edinburgh, may I, through your columns, thank 40 Regiment RA, the Lowland Gunners, for kindly hosting our under-14 football team of 19 boys for a week in Hohne Garrison in April.

The boys all thoroughly enjoyed themselves and can't stop talking about it.

Special thanks are due to WO1 Paul Schofield, WO2 Scouse Murphy and SSgt Taff Baker, who could not do enough for us.

The whole week was a complete success, through no little effort by those mentioned. We are all most grateful for the enthusiasm displayed and time spent, ensuring our stay was memorable. - **Billy Hamilton, Edinburgh.**

Searchline success

I FELT I must write to thank *Soldier* for running the Searchline item for my father-in-law, Danny Diamond, who was seeking two colleagues from his Korea days.

I was delighted (as was he) when the article bore fruit so very quickly and Danny was contacted by Horace Stokes to arrange a meeting. We also received assistance from one of your Royal Engineers readers. - **Ms J Graham, Gosport, Hants.**

UK forces war death figures are disputed

THE Commonwealth War Graves Commission registered 569,000 British and Commonwealth lives lost in the Second World War.

The Home Office announced after the war that 62,000 civilians died. The Merchant Navy had 30,000 fatal casualties.

This year the Royal British Legion is commemorating 468,000 British lives lost. The total for Commonwealth and Territories is about 100,000.

A study of these figures gives a different impression from the "well over a quarter of a million members of the UK

Armed Forces killed in the Second World War" quoted in *Soldier* (May 1) in reference to the HMSO *Statistical Digest of the Second World War*.

Perhaps 378,000 of the UK Armed Forces is more correct. - **Alf Blake MM, Northfleet, Kent.**

● *The HMSO book gives the casualties incurred by the UK Armed Forces as 264,443, more than half of whom were serving in the British Army. The figure for British civilians killed is 67,365, most in air raids. "War related British deaths" are said to have totalled more than 360,000. - Editor*

Youngsters should be told more about our wartime hell

I WILL never forget the hell we passed through, or of the prayers I muttered, during the Western Desert campaign of 1942 while serving with the 1st Bn The Black Watch RHR,

Daughter dismayed by fee to search records

EARLIER this year I applied for the service records of my father, Pte Rennie Simpson, who was killed in Italy in April 1945 at the age of 27 while serving with the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders.

However, I was dismayed to discover that the MoD required a fee of £15. I strongly objected to this and contacted my MP, who took up the matter with the Secretary of State for Defence.

In a letter to my MP the Defence Under Secretary, Lord Henley, agreed that my fee should be waived on compassionate grounds. There is a

part of 154 Brigade of the 51st Highland Division.

I believe present day youngsters should know more of what went on. For one thing the Afrika Korps was only 60

discretionary procedure for this at the Records Office at Hayes.

There is no indication on the documents sent to me that the office can waive the fee in certain circumstances and others may wish to know about this. - **Mrs Eileen King, Colne, Lancs.**

● *The Records Office at Hayes tells us it has charged a search fee for enquiries since 1989. In April this was increased from £15 to £20. Spouses of the deceased are exempt from payment. In Mrs King's case, discretion was exercised due to her own special circumstances. - Editor*

miles from Alexandria and if our front line had not held during the Axis attack in the first battle of El Alamein, it would have been catastrophic.

I lost many pals at Alamein and thereafter and have the greatest respect for all those who invaded France and Germany, but may I add that if our forces had not won through to Tunis there might have been no invasion.

I was wounded in both legs and right arm during a night

patrol on Wadi Akarit in April 1943. Fortunately The Seaforths had a patrol out on the same night and somehow they managed to get the five of us back to their own lines.

My home now is Erskine Hospital, a very nice place, and ideal for disabled ex-Servicemen to spend the remainder of their lives. - **W McMillan, Room 8 PRQ, The Princess Louise Scottish Hospital, Erskine Hospital, Bishopston, Renfrewshire PA7 5PU.**

STICK MEN WERE NOT SCRUFFS!

DOES A W Cregan ("Stick men took a bit of stick", *Letters* April 17) really know of what he writes, or is he merely "miffed" because he was never awarded the honour?

Having served with three distinguished county regiments (Devon and Dorsets, Glosters, and South Wales Borderers), I can assure him that the Commanding Offi-

cer's Stick Orderly was chosen not only for his turnout but for his drill as well.

It would be interesting to hear the comments of his former commanding officers when they read that their stick orderly was chosen as the scruffiest man on parade!

While with the D and Ds in the early Sixties, the incentive to good drill and turnout on

guard mounting was that any man who was awarded the stick on three consecutive occasions was excused guard duties for up to three months, depending on company commitments.

Surely such an incentive would have been self-defeating if awarded to the scruffiest individual on parade. - **A J Mogg, Ashford, Kent.**

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Poetry of peace . . . and war

TRIBUTES in verse to Service men and women who have been involved in conflicts from the First World War to those currently involving United Nations troops have come the way of *Soldier*.

From the French Embassy in London comes *Tribute to the Soldiers of Peace*, written by M Lucien Appert, whose sentiments have been praised by President Mitterand.

To quote a translation of just one of the poem's five verses: "Be proud of thy fight, thou art here for Peace./ Thou art facing rough warriors dreaming of doing but harm./ For thou art the symbol of reviving life/ In a bruised country refusing death."

While this work runs to just a handful of verses, *Falklands Victory*, by Dunkirk, North Africa and Italy veteran Ken Rider, late Royal Signals, of Birmingham, can only be described as an epic.

Written partly in blank verse and partly in rhyming couplets, the 72-page paperback, including a map of the islands, tells the 1982 Falklands story in narrative form.

Dunkirk veterans from Lancashire inspired a Daughter of the East Lancashire Regiment to commit her thoughts and feelings to verse.

For ten years Judith M Appleby, whose father was Capt J Coffey, of the East Lancs, and her family

50th ANNIVERSARY EVENTS

Imperial War Museum

London at War exhibition; Home Front Memorial Gallery roll of honour; special film season.

Channel Islands occupation and liberation exhibition.

From August: Victory in the Far East display.

Until August 31: D-Day to Victory exhibition.

MAY

27-29: Victory Show rally by Military Vehicle Trust, Southsea Common (tel 01489 572582).

28: Battle Abbey, E Sussex, English Heritage public events.

JUNE

24-25: Tynemouth Castle, Tyne and Wear VE commemoration.

VJ Day - AUGUST

12-19: VJ week in Pwllheli, Wales (tel 01758 614066).

19: Open-air service in central London; Tribute and promise parade, central London; firework display along the Thames.

20: Tribute throughout the nation, including services in Belfast,

Cardiff and Edinburgh, and culminating with a Beating the Retreat and Sunset ceremony in these cities and London.

26: South Bedfordshire RBLs celebration, Dunstable (tel 01582 663166).

SEPTEMBER

2-3: Berwick on Tweed floodlit tattoo.

● *Entry to Government-sponsored events free to veterans*

● *To include public events in this diary, contact the Editor.*

SOLDIER to Soldier

were tenants of The Fusilier hostelry in Ramsbottom, venue of the Dunkirk Veterans' local association monthly meetings.

When she joined the veterans on pilgrimages to Dunkirk the experience affected her so deeply that she published them in *My First Shot*, a 28-page collection of poems covering the two world wars and subsequent events.

Orders for Mr Rider's poem should be addressed to him, c/o Century House Publishers, 99-101 Sutton Road, Erdington, Birmingham B23 5XA and cheques for £5.50 per copy plus postage (50p second class, 75p first) made out to Mr K J Rider.

My First Shot, published by The Doron Press, is available at £2 from Judith M Appleby, 32 Hurst Street, Bury BL9 7ER, or from certain bookshops, museums and heritage centres in North West England.

Family boost for Haig fund

SALES of a cassette of poetry, pipes and drums and song entitled *Scots at War: '39-'45* will benefit the Earl Haig Fund, which cares for ex-Service men and women.

The tape features the work of the late Jackie MacDonald and has been produced by his son-in-law, the Rev William Marsh. One of Jackie's poems, written during the war, was first sold in 1943 to raise money for the then PoW Fund and the British Red Cross.

Mr Marsh has done the recitations, and teamed up with his wife to provide a narrative. Daughter Michaela is also featured.

Timed for the VE and VJ 50th anniversaries, the cassette is available at Wesley Owen Bookshops and other outlets in Scotland, or may be ordered direct from Rev Marsh, Crosshill Queen's Park Church Manse, 32 Queen's Drive, Glasgow G42 8DD (tel 0141 423 2533). Price from Mr Marsh is £5 (plus 29p p&p).

Racing certainties . . .



LCpl Brian Hall REME, Sig Tony Palmer, Sig Steven Jay, Sig Jake Lavin and Sig Mark Langley were some of the 7th Signal Regiment personnel on hand to repair damage after each race at the reopening of the racecourse at Krefeld in Germany. The bands of the Husars and Light Dragoons under Capt David Cresswell put on musical entertainment between the ten races on the card, while 7 Signals' chefs provided food for a cocktail party attended by many high-ranking guests. The soldiers so enjoyed the event, which raised thousands of pounds for UNESCO charities, that many have volunteered to help at other race meetings on the course.

Dead of Gallipoli remembered

WHILE Europe's focus was concentrated on the 50th anniversary of VE Day, memories of earlier campaigns were being evoked in the Dardanelles.

Armed Forces Minister Nicholas Soames represented the British Government at commemorations in Turkey to mark the 80th anniversary of the Allied landings at Gallipoli.

In April 1915, a force of 84,000 British and 41,000 Commonwealth troops went ashore to open a new front intended to shorten the war.

But after initial progress the

advance stagnated against determined Turkish defence and thousands of British, Australian, New Zealand and French troops were killed or wounded before the Allied command ordered a withdrawal. Eighteen of the 39 Victoria Crosses awarded at Gallipoli were won by soldiers of the British Army.

Mr Soames said: "Britain and Turkey are now firm friends in NATO and our armies have worked together during many crises since the end of the First World War, including the Korean War, and today as part of peace-keeping operations in Bosnia."

The bridge that didn't go all the way



Walkers on the Ulster Way have no excuse for wet feet - thanks to the Royal Engineers and 5 R Irish. The soldiers have completed a month's work to extend what was known as "the bridge not far enough" on the River Bush.

Erosion over the riverbanks near Portballintrae meant people had to wade through floodwater to

reach the bridge, and local councils could not afford the repairs. But the sappers and 5 R Irish stepped in to save the day, undertaking the work as a military exercise with contributions from the councils towards the cost of material. There has been a crossing at the mouth of the Bush since the early 16th century.

REUNIONS

Worcester and Sherwood Foresters Regiment: Regimental annual reunion, Pitchcroft race course, Worcester, June 3, 1300-1800. Details from Regimental Headquarters WFR, Norton Barracks, Worcester WR5 2PA.

Army Medical Stores/Equipment Depot, Ludgershall: Reunion at Drummond Barracks on June 17-18 for Regulars, TA, National Servicemen and civilians. Details from C Mason, Lanville, Grange Road, Ellesmere, Shropshire SY12 9DJ (enclose sae) or tel 01691 622300.

Armourers' Association: Reunion for armourers and artificers weapon, June 24, Victory Services Club, London. Details from Chris Dennis, 18 Willowslea Road, Worcester WR3 7QP. Members not in contact for three years will be removed from mailing list.

Airborne chefs (Galley Recon): Reunion for para-trained chefs to be held in Aldershot on June 23. Airborne chefs not yet contacted are asked to telephone SSgt Iain Bayliss on Aldershot Mil (722) 4360 or 01252 349360.

APPOINTMENTS

Colonel: A J G Wight - To JPS PJHQ, May 1.

Lt Cols: D H A Blease RA - To RMCS, May 6; J P Hargreaves, Gren Gds - To be CO 1 Gren Gds, May 4; G F Hislop, R Irish - To

Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment WOs' and Sgts' Past and Present Dinner: July 1 at Bassingbourn. Tickets, details from the secretary on 01227 818054/56.

Royal Regiment of Wales: 27th annual reunion at Brecon on July 29/30. Details from Lt Col R J Ashwood, SWB Museum, The Barracks, Brecon, Powys LD3 7EB (tel 01874 613310 or Brecon Mil ext 2310).

SEARCHLINE

Teachers and pupils who attended **Cornwall School, Dortmund, Germany** sought for reunion in July 1996. Contact Sharon Selman (nee Stephenson) on 01622 743100 evenings/weekends or 01622 773265 days.

T Taylor would like news of **LCpl Brian E Dinsley (1 Para)** with whom he served at RSM Kneller Hall in 1958. Replies to 27 Stornaway Road, Leicester LE5 2QN or telephone 01162 433925.

Veterans (soldiers, sailors and airmen) interested in joining the **Eighth Army Veterans' Associa-**

MoD, May 2; A W Sutherland RLC - To be CO 29 Regiment RLC, May 1.

Retirement
Colonel: D A B Williams, late RGJ, May 6.

CLOSURES

The **Hong Kong Officers' Mess** wishes to return gifts to donors. Any person from the former Blackdown Mess or Support Troops Mess who presented items is asked to contact the QM, Log Sp Regt RLC, BFPO 1. Closing date is August 1. **Hong Kong Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess**, which will close on December 1, also wishes to return property to benefactors. Contact the RSM, Log Sp Regt RLC, BFPO 1.

tion should write for an application form to Mrs Linda Kenyon, 38 Pinewood Avenue, Thornton Cleveleys, Lancs FY5 5EW.

Frank T Smith wishes to contact former members of **600th Regiment RA** to find out the circumstances and location of the mortal wounding of **Francis William Yarker** in the Dunkirk area in mid April 1945. Replies to 33 Startforth Park, Barnard Castle, Durham DL12 9AL.

Mrs Eileen King wishes to hear from former **8th Battalion, Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders** members who were at the Boccaleone/Cossondolo area of the Argenta Gap, Italy and may have recollections of her late father, **Pte Rennie Simpson, 8 A and SH**, who died of wounds sustained there on April 19, 1945, aged 27. Replies to 66 Langroyd Road, Colne, Lancs BB8 9EQ.

DIARY

Until the autumn: *Soldier* 50th anniversary exhibition, National Army Museum, Royal Hospital Road, Chelsea. Admission free.

JUNE

3: Gurkha Band, 3 RGR Pipes and Drums Beat Retreat, Vehicle Depot RLC, Ashchurch, Tewkesbury for Gurkha Welfare Trust and Tewkesbury Abbey Appeal. Tickets (Beat Retreat £2 adults, £1 under 18, £5 family; dinner £20) on 01386 725224.

7-8: Beating Retreat, Guards Massed Bands, Horse Guards, Whitehall, in aid of Army Benevolent Fund and Household Division charities. Tickets: 0171 839 5323. (All reserved seats £10, £8, £5.)

11: British Mule Society's Mule Day at Defence Animal Centre, Melton Mowbray.

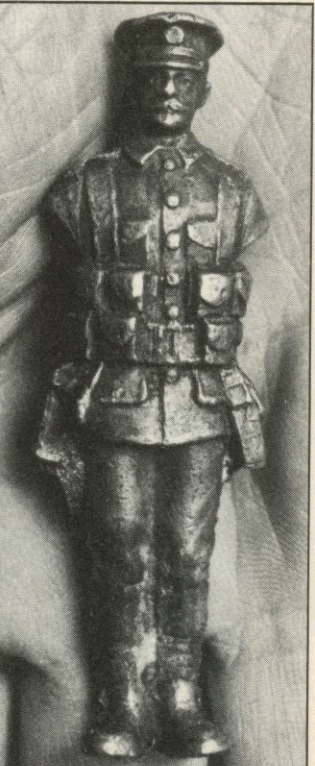
13,14,15: Tri-Service Beat Retreat by Massed Bands on Horse Guards Parade in aid of SSAFA. (Enquiries to SSAFA on 0171-403 8783).

25: Colchester Garrison County Day. Enquiries on 01206 782020.

JULY

18-29: 105th Royal Tournament, Earl's Court.

● *To include public events in this diary, contact the Editor.*



Can anyone cast any light on the origins of this tiny chap - or explain why he has no arms? Was he intended to convey a message for a First World War charitable organisation? Military historian Brian Jewell, who acquired the object some time ago, would love to be put out of his suspense. He can be contacted on 01423 500704.

Gib makes a change

GIBRALTAR stole a march on the United Kingdom as a way of celebrating the 50th anniversary of Victory in Europe.

On May 8 the government of the Rock launched a £5 circulating coin, something which many British people would welcome.

Approved by Buckingham Palace and struck in virenum with a gold base metal colour, the coin bears an effigy of the Queen on the obverse.

The reverse depicts the symbols V and E surrounded by a wreath, with a dove flying over the date 1945.

During the war years Gibbaltians were evacuated to England, Jamaica and Madeira and were not allowed home until the unconditional surrender of Germany was announced.



Obverse



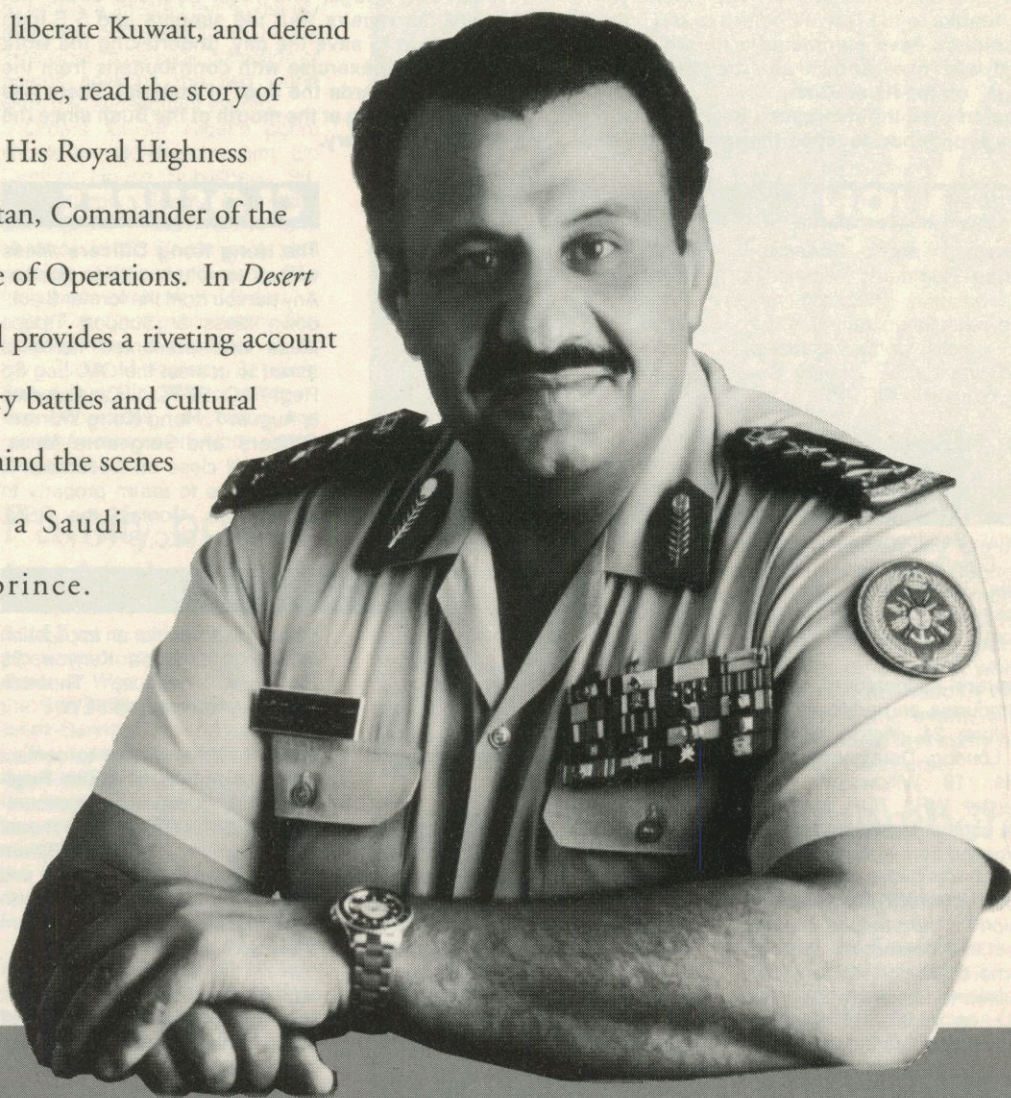
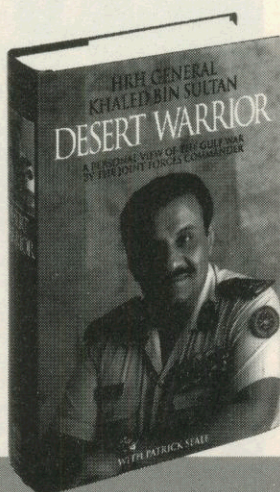
Reverse


HRH GENERAL KHALED BIN SULTAN DESERT WARRIOR

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BY THE JOINT FORCES COMMANDER WITH PATRICK SEALE

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Timely tribute to military bandsmen

Below: The complete Massed Bands of the Scots Guards, brought together for the first time in the history of the regiment, parade at the Duke of York's HQ, Chelsea, in May 1958

IN THE rapidly diminishing military music scene it is fortunate that a major history appears before little boys ask: "Daddy, what is a military band?"

Fortunate, too, that Gordon and Alwyn Turner, father and son, took on the task of assembling facts, figures and photographs while memory could supply more recent detail.

The result is *The History of British Military Bands*, in which tribute is rightly paid to William C Tanner, a true band buff, who collected a vast quantity of material on bands and bandsmen into one typed volume of well over a thousand pages, much of which is reproduced here.

Tanner was appointed official historian of Army music before his death in the 1970s.

First volume of a proposed trilogy deals with the Cavalry and Corps, including the Parachute Regiment, Brigade of Gurkhas, WRAC, and Royal Tank Regiment.

Where regiments were amalgamated, as with the 13th/18th Hussars, information on both bands is given, with a complete list of bandmasters before and after amalgamation.

The introduction deals with the origins of military music, the expansion, the golden years since the middle of the 19th century, and modern times. The recent Options for



Change make a sad coda to what became a glorious source of pageantry and colour to provide a far-flung empire with the music and musicians it needed and deserved.

Mention is made, and details given where possible, of unofficial and temporary bands formed during two world wars and in peacetime, such as the Telegraph Battalion of Royal Engineers, the Royal Army Pay Corps and others.

A section is devoted to whole families involved in military music – the Godfreys, Millers, O'Donnells – names that were household words for generations, when bandmasters were sought after and fêted much as

pop stars are today. They provided the only source of music for much of the population.

A full list of bandmasters from earliest days to the present is supplied with each band, with a copious supply of photographs of many of them in colour and black-and-white.

The pictures recall memories of boyhood more vividly for us old bandsmen than words ever could.

Amid those of bandmasters in their finery is one of a band-boy in the King's Dragoon Guards, 1906, in shabby, ill-fitting uniform, probably penniless, certainly hungry, trombone at the ready to do his all for King and Country.

Dear, dead days, almost certainly beyond recall . . .

And with the book comes a CD containing all the Cavalry and Corps official quicksteps as they were before the recent dreaded Options.

Volume 2 will continue with the Guards and Infantry, and Volume 3 with more Infantry, including the Light Division.

Meanwhile, the first volume is a handsome book, doing full justice to its subject. – RB

The History of Military Bands: Volume 1, Cavalry and Corps by Gordon and Alwyn Turner, foreword by Sir Edward Heath. Spellmount Publishers, Staplehurst, Kent, hardback, £60.

IN BRIEF

Arms and Armour Press, hardback, £16.99.

The Hitler Options: Alternate Decisions of World War II edited by Kenneth Macksey. In well-structured analyses of ten scenarios, military historians assess what might have happened had Hitler or the Allies taken different decisions. Greenhill Books, hardback, £17.95.

Voices from a Border War by

Robert Gurr. Story of 1 Royal New Zealand Infantry Regiment (by its former CO) in 1963-65 before and during active operations against Indonesian incursions into Malaysia and Sarawak, Borneo. Available in paperback by sending a PO for £16 (inc) to the author, Brig R M Gurr (Rtd), 35 Redbourne Ave, Mt Eliza, Vic 3930, Australia.

The Pomp of Yesterday by William Jackson. Authoritative

study by Gen Jackson of the defence of India and the Suez Canal, 1798 - 1914 and the cost in lives and human effort to keep open the vital routes between India and the Western world. Brassey's, hardback, £30.

The Military British in India by T A Heathcote. Well-researched, 288-page study of the development of British land forces in South Asia between 1600 and 1947, written by the curator of the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst Collection. Manchester University Press, hardback, £40.

● More briefs in next page

The Hood Battalion by Leonard Sellers. Naval or military? This identity problem did not help the unit or Royal Naval Division, of which it was a part. Dubbed "Winston's Little Army", these sailor-soldiers, including Rupert Brooke and Bernard Freyberg, fought at Antwerp, Gallipoli and the Somme. Leo Cooper, hardback, £25.

Iron Fist: Classic Armoured Warfare Case Studies by Bryan Perrett. Readable, vivid and professional account of armoured vehicle warfare action from early days to the Gulf, by the best-selling former British Army officer.

Tanks action: a view from the top

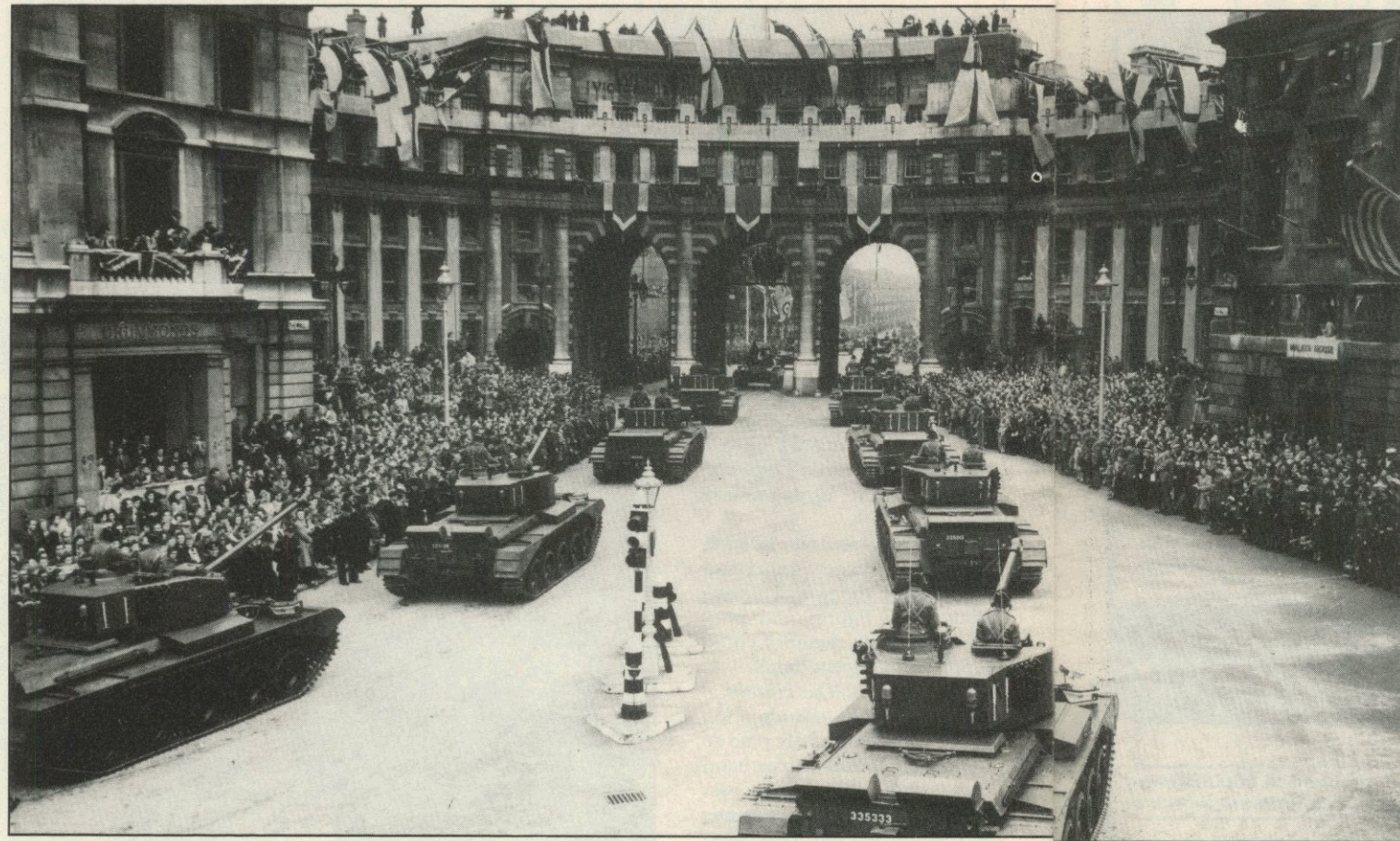
SOME men are car crazy, others, just a few, love tanks. George Forty is of the latter ilk. No doubt about it.

For 14 years he was director and curator of the Tank Museum at Bovington and this experience, plus his many years of service with the Royal Tank Regiment, put him at the top of a mini-league of experts on Armoured Fighting Vehicles (AFVs).

In *Tank Action – from the Great War to the Gulf* his fervour for these metal monsters and the ace tank commanders comes through with a force similar to that of an 88mm armour-piercing round from a German Tiger tank.

A self-explanatory title, in that Col Forty has selected about 40 tank battle actions from the Western Front in 1916 to the Gulf War in 1991.

Included in the 300-odd pages are numerous maps and drawings, and scores of very good photographs of tanks and



the men who fought in them.

As a former tank commander with a good deal of active service under his belt (he was wounded at the Battle of Hook in Korea with 1 RTR in 1953 and served in Aden and Borneo with 4 RTR), George Forty is an acknowledged tank expert, and his accounts of the actions are easy to follow and precise.

The colonel lists the essential qualities for all tank com-

manders as "a sense of awareness; grip and leadership; speed of reaction and anticipation; knowledge and common sense." Regiments and corps other than those armoured might say these qualities are shared by commanders on every part of the battlefield, foot-sloggers and all. – JM

Tank Action – from the Great War to the Gulf by George Forty. Alan Sutton, £25.

A year after they had taken part in the final battles of the Second World War, British tanks were on the streets of London, for the Victory Parade of June 1946.

In all, 480 vehicles, ranging from jeeps to the heaviest armoured fighting machines, and 21,000 troops from all over the British Empire, took part in the celebration.

The picture shows the mechanised column passing through Admiralty Arch into The Mall, where the King took the salute.

IN BRIEF

Pill Boxes on the Western Front by Peter Oldham. For the connoisseur and battlefield visitor, an expert's gazetteer and guide to design, construction and use of concrete pill boxes, 1914-18. Leo Cooper, hardback, £18.95.

Warfighting edited by Lt Col H T Hayden USMC. The author, a key counter-terrorist commander in Desert Shield and Desert Storm, sets out the US Marine Corps philosophy of "maneuver warfare", which seeks to shatter enemy cohesion through a series of rapid, violent and unexpected actions. Greenhill Books, hardback, £18.95.

A Sense of Direction by Stuart Fletcher. Autobiographical paperback includes his National Service reminiscences of military

experiences at Catterick and Bovington camps in the early 1950s. Available from publisher, Excalibur Press of London, 4-6 Effie Road, London SW6 1TD, at £6.95 plus £1 p&p.

Military Transport: Trucks and Transporters by T J O'Malley, illustrated by Ray Hutchins. A loggies' bible – another invaluable reference work in the Greenhill Military Manuals series. Greenhill Books, hardback, £12.95.

Third Axis, Fourth Ally by Mark Axworthy with Cornel Scafes and Christian Craciunoiu. Detailed study of Romania's largely unchronicled role in the Second World War – first on the Axis side, then, from 1944, with the Allies. Arms and Armour Press, hardback, £25.

The Heart of Danger by Gerald Seymour. Master storyteller deals this time with former Yugoslavia as a former MI5 man searches for a war criminal. HarperCollins, hardback, £14.99.

Brothers In Arms by William C Davis. The lives and experiences of the men who fought in the American Civil War – in their own words, taken from anecdotes, letters and diaries. Salamander Books, 129-137 York Way, London N7, large-format hardback, £18.99.

The Forgotten Few by Adam Zamoyski. Billed as the first detailed account of the outstanding part played by the Polish Air Force stationed on British soil in the Second World War. John Murray, hardback, £19.99.

The Canvas Falcons: The Men and Planes of World War I by Stephen Longstreet. First published in the USA in 1970, a documentary history of the air war over Europe. Leo Cooper, hardback, £13.95.

From the Barrel of a Gun by John Ellis. History of guerrilla, revolutionary and counter-insurgency warfare from the Roman times to the present. Revised and enlarged from *A Short History of Guerrilla Warfare* (1976). Greenhill Books, hardback, £24.95.

European Swords by Stephen Bull. A 32-page survey of weaponry from all periods, by the curator at the Lancashire County and Regimental Museum, Preston. Shire Album 298, Shire Publications, softback, £2.25.

Cavalry arm badge quest throws up more mysteries

WHEN Peter Seaman set out on five years of painstaking research for a book on British cavalry arm badges he found the subject by no means an exact science.

As he progressed he resolved many doubts and uncertainties, only to find further questions arising.

By the end of his quest two of his major points of query were still unanswered:

- Why was the position of the arm badge frequently moved from above the chevrons to upon them in some regiments?

- Why were cavalry warrant officers wearing the arm badge circa 1914 when the clothing regulations for that year state that "These badges are not worn by WOs"?

These questions will seem esoteric to the detached observer but are obviously vital to the connoisseur, even to one who offers, as he says in his introduction, "more a catalogue of cavalry WOs' and NCOs' arm badges than a finite scholarly work".

He hopes others interested in "this fascinating aspect of military insignia" will be prompted by his book to respond with helpful additions to the pool of knowledge.

This large-format glossy paperback, covering the period 1800 to 1993, is full of detailed information, its authoritative text complemented by 300 pictures, some in colour.

The text contains a useful

historical list of cavalry regiments updated to include the Options amalgamations.

Much of the material in the book was gleaned on visits to every cavalry museum, most cavalry home headquarters and other national archives, as well as by calling on the willing help of serving and former soldiers and collectors.

We all owe a debt of gratitude to such people – and to the likes of Peter Seaman, who spend much time and energy adding to the sum of military knowledge. – CH

Arm Badges of the British Cavalry Regiments written and published by Peter Seaman, 47 Armoury Road, Selby, N Yorks, YO8 0AY. Large format paperback, £28 inc p&p.

Drama, suspense, adventure . . . all in a young man's diary

MARK WELL these words of a man in his early twenties:

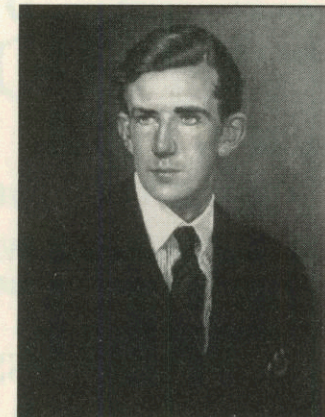
"Again and again one gets that moment of intuition, that sudden vision of how the old world is falling into chaos around us.

"Ideas and principles that have never yet been challenged in the centuries are questioned for the first time by scientific unbelievers; the traditions of the Army, the security of classes and the respect of man for his superiors, the values of religion, the sacredness of the family itself are all violated and derided.

"... All, all is being swept into ruin and dissolution as never before; the very pillars of the West are falling."

But where and when was this remarkably mature 24-year-old writing? France in 1789 – or 1914? Russia in 1917? The 1960s, or any decade since?

The profound words were written in his diary in July 1943 by Hugh Dormer, who had been commissioned into the 2nd Armoured Battalion Irish



Portrait of Hugh Dormer. Detail from a painting in the officers' mess, 1 IG

Guards but was "temporarily attached elsewhere" after volunteering for several dangerous missions behind German lines.

He did not survive the war but, like his reputation as an extremely brave man, his diaries did. They were published in 1947 and reprinted in the same year but for almost half a century they were read

largely only by those fortunate enough to have access to the Irish Guards library.

Now that *Hugh Dormer's Diaries* have been re-published in conjunction with and to benefit the Irish Guards, they deserve a far wider readership, for they have that economy and immediacy of style shared by the best narratives.

In their undramatic, understated way they tell a remarkable, real-life adventure story, loaded with tension.

Dropped twice by night from Halifax bombers into enemy-occupied Europe, Dormer succeeded in destroying a vital oil installation, an act which is believed to have influenced significantly the outcome of the war in the Western Desert.

His escape across occupied France and over the Pyrenees into Spain; the suspense of his pursuit by the baying bloodhounds of the SS; it is all the stuff of a high-quality thriller. But all true, and immediate.

Then, when offered a glittering prize many might have

grabbed (leading the French Resistance as they settled old scores with the Nazis) he opted instead to fight across France with his beloved regiment.

Hugh Dormer DSO died young, as he knew he would, but perhaps not quite in the circumstances he expected – beside his tank in the Bocage. In battle, bravely.

Fellow Guardsmen placed bunches of flowers on his grave. A local farmer pledged to look after his final resting place and those of others.

For that grateful Frenchman, said a brother officer who attended the funeral, it would be "his small return for the debt that France owes to our dead". – CH

Hugh Dormer's Diaries. Published on behalf of the Irish Guards by Richard Netherwood Ltd, hardback, £8. Available from Regimental Headquarters, Irish Guards, c/o Wellington Barracks, Birdcage Walk, London SW1 6HQ, cheques payable to "Irish Guards WO1 Account".

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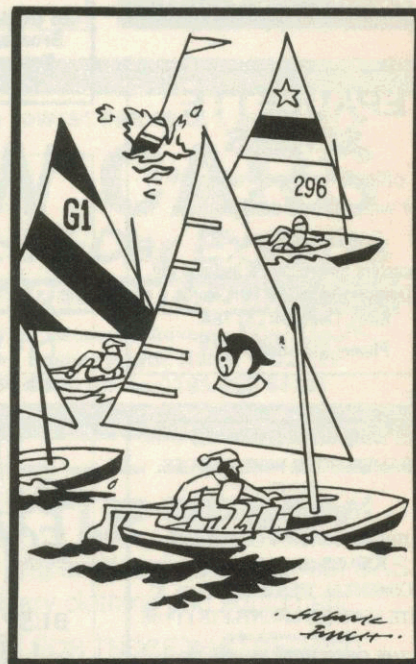
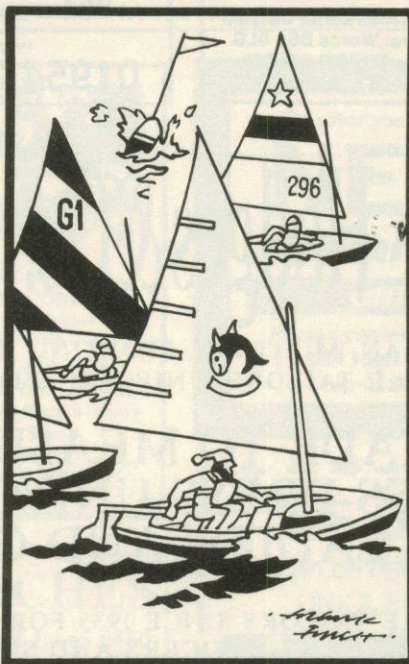
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Competition No 609 (April 17 issue): Congratulations to Bdr M J Hoskins, of 29 Commando Regt RA, The Royal Citadel, Plymouth, who wins £50. Book prizes go to runners-up Mr F O'Neal, of Farnham, Surrey, and Mr J A Jones, of Shoeburyness, Essex.

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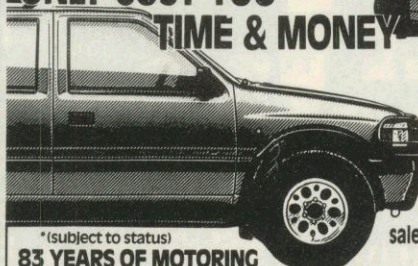
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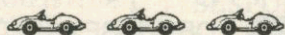
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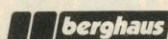
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All correspondence to: Pen Pals, Soldier Magazine, Ordnance Road, Aldershot, Hants GU11 2DU.

Gail, 21, 5'8", slim with ginger hair. Hobbies: swimming, aerobics, jogging, going out and all music. I would like to hear from non-smoking pen pals aged 21-30. **P380**

Dawn, 29, 5'4", blonde, single with one child. Enjoys: reading, writing, clubbing, cooking and watching tv. I am a non-smoker with a wacky sense of humour, I'd like to hear from anyone aged 30-35. **P381**

Sharon, 23, 5'5", single with one child, long hair. I enjoy writing, night clubs, reading, tv and talking. I am a smoker and would like to hear from pen pals aged 21-29. **P382**

Janette, 28, 5'4", brown hair, plump, divorced with two children. Interests: reading, talking, writing, cinema, walks. I am a witty non-smoker and would like to hear from pen pals aged 29-35. **P383**

Tracey, 24, 5'6" with brown hair and brown eyes. Enjoys: having fun, Alton Towers, swimming, ten-pin bowling, ice skating, pubs and clubs. I would like to hear from anyone aged 20-34, must have gsOH. **P384**

Nina, 26, blonde, 5'4", cuddly, two children. Enjoys: discos, cinema, pubs, eating out, days out, music, tv and video. I would like to hear from male pen pals aged 25-35. **P385**

Hi, I'm Lynne from Dorset. I'm 26 and like pubs, clubs, music, cinema, sports and enjoying life in general. If you have similar interests I'd love to hear from you. **P386**

Lesley, 35, single, 5', medium build, brown eyes and brown hair. I'm a fun person, with a bubbly personality, and enjoy life to the full. I would like to write to someone similar aged 30+. **P387**

Catherine, 21, 5'8", slim, dark hair and green eyes. Interests: animals, clubbing, pubbing, listening to music and enjoying myself. I would like to hear from anyone aged 20-25. **P388**

Hello, I'm Julie, 31, tall with chestnut hair and green eyes. I'm fun loving and have a gsOH. I'm a qualified nurse and would like to write to soldiers home or abroad. **P389**

Helen and Gaynor, late 20s. Interests: aerobics, drinking, clubbing. We would like to hear from anyone, anywhere with imagination and a sense of humour for light-hearted correspondence. **P390**

Hi, I'm Heather, 5'1" with fair hair. I'm fun loving and have a gsOH. I enjoy eating out, pubs, watching football (Liverpool), walking and cinema. I would like to hear from penpals aged 25-30. **P391**

Greetings, I'm Anna, 36, one youngster. I would love to swap lively letters with friendly, honest pen pals, any age. I'm attractive, cuddly and have a humorous nature. **P392**

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25-way tie for sixth prize (14 goals, £12 each) Sgt A M J Bisacre, 19 Airmob Fd Amb, Colchester; Maj I J Blanks, HQ Land, Wilton; LCpl S E Cooke, 30 Signal Regt, Bramcote; LCpl M W Craven, 8 Arty Sp Regt RLC, Catterick; Cpl P J *****, HQ Hereford Garrison; LCpl M Faux, QDG, BFPO 15; Sgt M T Greenwood, Kings Div Waterloo Band, Catterick; LCpl M H Hanna, HQ 7 Armd Bde, BFPO 30; Sig J W Henry, 251 Sig Sqn, Aldershot; Cpl A J Hooper, 30 Signal Regt, Bramcote; Sgt A V Hughes, 16 Armd Fd Amb, Tidworth; LCpl A Hunt, BATUS, BFPO 14; Capt P A Hunt, Army Apprentice College, Harrogate; LCpl M I Morgan, 1 ASLS RE, RAF Marham; Maj C P Mullen, BFPO 807; Brig A W Pollard, HQ QMG, Andover; Sgt A S Pranckevicius,

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Brighton women give the Army a lesson

Army Ladies 3, Brighton and Hove Albion Ladies 6

THE ARMY women's football team, fresh from a win over Hampshire in their only other representative game of the season, entertained Brighton and Hove Albion at Aldershot and were well beaten in a high-scoring match, **writes Derrick Bly.**

But the Servicewomen put up a good show against a talented, experienced Brighton team and improved as the game went on.

The visitors took the lead from the penalty spot after seven minutes when Army skipper Sgt Mac McQue was adjudged to have handled, Denise Fenton beating Army 'keeper Cpl Debbie Sutton from the spot.

Brighton went two goals up minutes later and three ahead when Tammy Waine shrugged off challenges by Cpl Lynn Jones and Cpl Kaz Moore. Cpl Alli Garven pulled one back in the 27 minute, only for the visitors to hit two more past goal-keeper Sutton before the break.

The Army came more into the game in a second half during which Cpl Lofty Lofthouse and substitute Pte Tracey Summer scored either side of a sixth Brighton and Hove goal.

Medics sweep board

MEMBERS of 208 Fd Hospital (Merseyside RAMC(V)) swept the board at the 9mm pistol non-central competition (United Kingdom).

Paras set standard on big night of boxing for novices

A HIGH standard of competition was maintained throughout the Army novice individual boxing finals staged at Hyde Park Barracks, Knightsbridge.

More than 120 entries were received for the competition and seven Parachute Regiment boxers – six from the 1st Bat-

talion – reached the finals.

Cpl E Towler of 1 DWR, winner of the light-welterweight division, was awarded the Naafi Cup for best boxer of the night. Pte J Gillespie (1 Para) received the Lonsdale Certificate for the best loser. Best bout was between Pte M

Bambrook's rocket ends sappers' run

3 RSME 0, 2 Signal Regt 1

A TREMENDOUS drive from Army footballer Sig Simeon Bambrook in the 25th minute was enough to relieve the Royal Engineers of the Army Challenge Cup for the first time in six years, **writes Derrick Bly.**

Until the goal, which was neatly set up by Sgt Alan Higgins, the game had been a dour struggle with neither side establishing any territorial control.

A high wind in the Military Stadium, Aldershot made ball control difficult and the signallers' shooting was off target. Main danger to their defence came from long throw-ins by 3 RSME defenders and skipper Cpl Scouse Mayers.

The 2 Sigs' goal came almost immediately after an excellent RSME attack involving Cpl Lee Innes, Sgt Bobby Lockwood and Sgt Robbo Robson, whose shot was smothered by goalkeeper Cpl Andy McWilliam.

Bambrook's goal gave the 500-strong crowd something to cheer about and breathed new life into the signallers, for whom Higgins and Sgt Steve Parkins strove hard to release Bambrook and Sig Joe Collins into scoring positions.

Lockwood fired over for the sappers when well placed and Cpl Steve Burke did likewise for the York-based signallers.

McWilliam was sent off in the second half for handling outside the area, causing a major reshuffle in the signallers' ranks. With the sappers sensing their chance and attacking strongly, there was a period of high excitement and several narrow escapes.

Lockwood missed two sitters and a half-chance to get the sappers back in contention, while Bambrook should have put the signallers further ahead

after Collins had created the chance. Bambrook's shot sliced well wide.

The final whistle sounded with the signallers hanging on desperately. They now meet HMS Daedalus and RAF Waddington in the Naafi Jubilee Cup.

Mr David Sargent, manag-

ing director of Army Challenge Cup sponsors Wilsons Independent Financial Advisers, presented the trophy to Sgt Steve Perkins and former England, Blackpool and Army full-back Jimmy Armfield selected Joe Collins as the Bill Wilson Memorial Trophy man of the match.



Sgt Steve Perkins RLC, the 2 Signal Regiment captain, raises the Challenge Trophy at Aldershot



The ups and downs of Army Challenge Cup football. Cpl Andy McWilliam, the 2 Signal Regiment goalkeeper, takes on friend and foe to clear his lines in the Military Stadium at Aldershot

Houghton (1 Para) and Rgr J McCarron (1 R Irish).

Details:

Flyweight – Rfn F Bennett (2 RGJ) bt LCpl A Hession (3 (UK) Div Hq and Sig Regt), rsc 1; **bantam** – Spr W McLean (38 Engr Regt) bt Pte P Charlton (1 PWRR), rsc 1; **feather** – Pte D

Campbell (1 Para) beat Pte J Ruffle (1 Para), rsc 3; **light** – Pte R Grant (1 Para) bt Pte S Jackson (1 DWR), rsc 1; **light-welter** – Cpl E Towler (1 DWR) bt LCpl J Woodgate (5 AB Log Bn RLC), pts u; **welter** – Rge J McCarron (1 R Irish) bt Pte Houghton (1 Para), rsc 3; **light-middle** – Pte S Brown Brown (2 Para) bt Gnr D Hunter (3

RHA), pts u; **middle** – Cpl R Perkins (1 Para) bt Pte J Gillespie (1 Para), pts u; **light-heavy** – LCpl A Robinson (27 Regt RLC) bt LCpl A Peters (59 Ind Cdo Sqn RE), pts u; **heavy** – ATpr L Spare (3 Regt AAC) bt LCpl A Swann (1 RRF), pts u; **super-heavy** – Cpl P Vella (59 Ind Cdo Sqn RE) bt Rfn N Brooks (2 RGJ), rsc 2.

Rapid-fire Infantry blast RLC

RLC 1, Infantry 5

IN A game full of fast-flowing football, the RLC took the lead after 35 minutes through Cpl Neil Eaton. Pte Lee Bradbury (PWRR) equalised with a header five minutes later.

The Infantry took control of the game early in the second half with three quick goals from Cpl John Greechan (Hldrs) and Pte Simon Yeo (Cheshire), 2. Lee Bradbury scored his second goal just before the end.

Infantry 3, AGC 0

A gale force wind made ball control extremely difficult and both sides took time to adjust to the conditions. The Infantry won the game with three goals in a ten-minute spell early in the second half. Scorers were Cpl Robert Stewart (KOSB) and LCpl Kevin Clelland (BW), while Pte Lee Bradbury (PWRR) had a shot diverted past his own goalkeeper by Pte Michael Sellars.

There's no stopping these Rangers

4/5 Rangers 6, 238 Sqn RLC(V) 1
SIX in a row... that is the proud boast of C Company, 4/5 Rangers who won the Territorial Army football Challenge Cup for a record sixth consecutive time when they beat 238 Sqn RLC(V) in the final at Depot R Irish, Ballymena.

Rgr Jonathan McClay scored a hat-trick to ensure it was the Rangers' day on the first occasion the final had been hosted in Northern Ireland since the competition began 74 years ago.

To add to the spectacle, the Northern Ireland TA Staff Band entertained spectators before and after the game and during the interval, while Brian Boru VI, the Irish Wolfhound mascot of The Royal Irish Regiment, paraded on the touchline.

Sappers support bigger prize draws

BIGGEST supporters of the Army Sports Lottery are 28 Engineer Regiment, closely followed by 1 (UK) Armoured Division Signal Regiment and the Army Careers Information Offices.

A lottery league table reflects the number of participants in a unit rather than the number of tickets sold and the figures have been compiled on unit identification numbers and post codes.

HQ ARRC also figures high in the list.

Gurkhas are now eligible to join the lottery, although their response has been limited so far.

A "dial-a-result" answerphone in the lottery office at Aldershot gives out the winning number of goal or runs and the prize money, but does not list individual winners. The number is Aldershot Mil 3687 or 01252 348687.

Weekly prize money has been increased from £4,500 to £6,000 since the beginning of May, with the first prize being raised by £500 to £2,500. Second prize is now £1,250 (from £1,000) and third £750 (£500).

The lesser prizes, down to eighth place, have each been increased by £100.



Cpl Alli Garven (left) watches as Cpl Steph Geeson (Duchess of Kent A) lines up a shot during the Army women's sixes final in Aldershot. Cpl Haley Folkes and Cpl Di Jones of Women's Services Northern Ireland close in to defend. A report on the Army Women-Brighton and Hove Albion game appears in Page 48

Picture: Mike Weston

Fast bowlers catch eye at Army trials

THREE days of uninterrupted play on well-prepared wickets meant the Army cricket festival at Aldershot gave everyone a fair trial, and unexpectedly produced some promising newcomers to the fast bowling department.

Teams arriving on the first day bore little resemblance to the lists received before the festival, but the event was well supported by the Royal Dra-

goon Guards from Germany, who produced three powerful players in Capt Ben Langman, Lt Jeremy Carr-Smith and LCpl Len Hutton.

A final trial was held on the third day, giving the selectors a chance to look at a number of emerging players. Several new faces with considerable talent ensured the festival was a success, the most encouraging aspect being the appearance, for the first time in years, of some genuinely quick bowlers.

Capt David Richmond (RHF) led the President's XI, WO2 Paul Woolnough (SEME) the Chairman's.

Results:

East 150-6 (Pick 51 retd, Turner 32; Monro 3-20, Hutton 1-25); **West** 148-9 (Monro 41, R Smith 25 retd; Hutton 39 no; Turner 2-11, Spencer 2-17, Jeremy Carr-Smith 2-21).

South 256-5 (Steel 51 retd, Gorman 48 retd, Woolnough 31, Betteridge 34 retd, James 35; Askew 2-14). **North** 139 (Roberts 32, Stoker 3-21).

East 180-2 (Pick 31 retd, R Smith 43 retd, Grinnoneau 26 retd; Woolnough 2-8). **South** 134-

9 (Legge 34 retd, Langman 32; Allum 2-33, Spencer 2-19).

President's XI 175 (Redfern 18 retd, M Smith 15 retd, Langman 32; Spencer 2-19). **Chairman's XI** 116 (Woolnough 24; Hutton 2-19, Turner 1-12, Hardman 1-14, Heardman 3-10, Tennant 3-17).

After games in May against Oxford University Authentics and Wiltshire, the Army take on Middlesex 2nd XI at Aldershot on June 1, the Club Cricket Conference at Uxbridge on the 12th, Free Foresters at Aldershot on the 18th and British Police at Imber Court on the 27th.

The Army has games against Sussex, Essex and Kent second teams during July.

The senior Inter-Services festival is being hosted in Portsmouth from August 7-9, and the domestic Major and Minor Unit competitions culminate in finals at Aldershot on August 24.

There is also a full programme of quality matches for the Under 25 side, with their Inter-Services taking place at Vine Lane on July 7-9.

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SOLDIER



Horse power: The King's Troop, Royal Horse Artillery, parades in Regent's Park, London, for a mounted inspection by GOC London District and Major General Commanding The Household Division, Maj Gen Iain Mackay-Dick. He assessed the troop's fitness for its ceremonial role. The King's Troop performed in the main arena during the national VE Day 50th anniversary commemorations in Hyde Park.

Picture: Terry Champion